

Discover the Coast!

Our annual look at what's new (and what's historical) on the Coast.

Special Section, Inside



American Legion posts celebrate Memorial Day – and their fallen comrades.

Community, Page 1B

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The Sea Coast Echo

Since 1892

VOL. 111, NO. 43 BAY ST. LOUIS, MISSISSIPPI

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THREE SECTIONS, 36 PAGES

75 CENTS

Thursday
MAY 30, 2002

Benefit Sunday for Abby McColley-Griffith

There will be a benefit this Sunday beginning at 1 p.m. at Boots's Brass Anchor Club, 51882 Hwy. 90, for Abby McColley-Griffith to help with medical expenses. There will be food, actions live music.

Yard sale to help Hancock Swimmers

There will be a benefit yard sale from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. this Saturday at 5033 Glenn St., Bay St. Louis, off Hwy. 603, to help pay travel expenses for the Hancock County swimmers who will be travelling to Spain.

Pearlington church to celebrate 134th year

First Baptist Church of Pearlington will host a 134th anniversary gala this Sunday, beginning at 3 p.m., with speaker Rev. Delbert Hall of Pilgrim Bound Baptist Church, Picayune. Rev. W.D. Rawls, pastor; James W. Wheat, deacon.

WHAT'S INSIDE

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TIDES

DAY HIGH LOW
Sun. 4:55 p. 4:19 a.
Mon. 5:09 p. 4:34 a.
Tues. 1:28 p. 4:17 a.
Wed. 10:50 a. 3:02 a.
Thurs. 10:17 a. 9:00 p.

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Local law enforcement, fire departments, and emergency workers held a simulated hazardous waste drill at Port Blenville on Wednesday. West Hancock Fire Chief Kim Jones acted as Incident Commander.

Local emergency officials conduct disaster exercise

BY SHANNON JENKINS
Staff Writer

Several emergency teams were called to Polychemie Inc. in Port Blenville Industrial Park Wednesday morning after an accident was reported to 911.

The "accident," fortunately, was part of an emergency drill conducted by the Local Emergency Planning Committee and other emergency agencies including the West Hancock Volunteer Department, Hancock County Fire Marshal Richard Pate, American Medical Response, the Hancock County Sheriff's Department, and the Port & Harbor Commission's Fire Brigade.

The drill was organized to



Two members of the West Hancock volunteer Fire Department in Pearlington suit up for their role in a simulated hazardous material drill at Port Blenville on Wednesday.

determine what emergency teams should do in a disaster involving chemicals, to identify any problems that may arise and to address those areas to improve

the emergency process.

LEPC Chairwoman Lynette Carbon identified the objectives of

DRILL--PAGE 7A

HCWS files suit against engineer

Levy denies accusations, says 'no evidence' to justify \$2.7M legal action

BY BENNIE SHALLBETTER
Staff Writer

Hancock County Water and Sewer District is not happy with work completed on Phase 1 of its new water distribution system. In fact, the district has filed a \$2.7 million lawsuit in Chancery Court against Duke Levy and Associates, P.A., the firm the board recently dismissed as engineer over the project. The suit is being handled by the law firm of Balch and Bingham LLP of Gulfport and was delivered to Levy on Wednesday.

The suit lists eight counts, including breach of contract; unjust enrichment/recovery of compensation/accounting; delay and lost revenue; fraud; negligence; breach of express and implied warranty; and conflict of interest.

LEVY--PAGE 7A

Bay bridge gets 'stuck up' during morning rush

BY GEOFF BELCHER
News Editor

Sometimes, there's a troubled bridge over calm waters.

Motorists were stranded for nearly 50 minutes yesterday morning when the drawbridge portion Bay St. Louis bridge got stuck in the up-position

BRIDGE--PAGE 7A

Hazardous waste illegally dumped near Pearlington

BY GEOFF BELCHER
News Editor

Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality officials and the West Hancock Fire Department are still trying to determine who may have dumped a barrel of unidentified hazardous waste in a wooded area at Logtown.

"We had a concerned citizen riding his four-wheeler in the area who saw this drum," Jones said Tuesday. The ATV-rider told Jones he had noticed the drum before, but reported it after he

noticed that someone had shot it and its contents were leaking.

Jones said MDEQ officials have not yet identified the substance in the drum, but confirmed that it was environmentally unsound. There were no labels or other identifying marks on the drum.

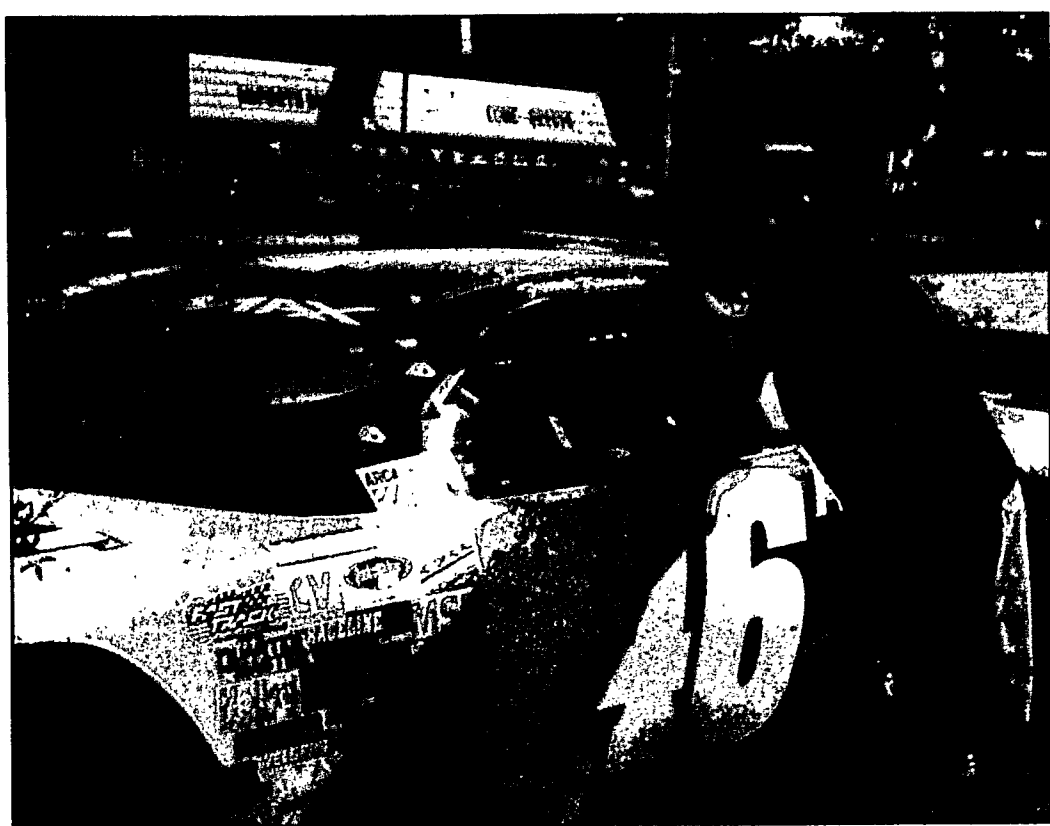
MDEQ contracted with USA Environmental Services to clean up the substance. MDEQ officials said yesterday that tests indicate the dump site is now

WASTE--PAGE 7A



An emergency crew works to clean up a hazardous material site in a wooded area at Logtown. The 55-gallon drum of as-yet unidentified material was illegally dumped at the site.

Racing Fever in the Bay



Echo staff photo by Shannon Jenkins
Zach Ferry, 16, examines the three-time Arca champion 46 Ford Taurus outside Advance Auto Parts in Bay St. Louis. The racer is part of the grand opening ceremony of the new Advance location at 1145 Highway 90. Ferry is the son of Michael and Jude Ferry.

Youth conference offers training for parents of adolescents with disabilities

The third annual Youth Leadership Conference to be held June 14 and 15 at the Clarion Hotel in Jackson will provide parents of adolescents (age 14 - 23) with special health care needs additional insights in how to help their young person transition into adulthood.

"Sometimes life serves up problems that have no easy answers, but there are solutions when you think creatively. The time is now to ease the rough spots in life. I plan to share ideas for families to strengthen their dreams for their child with a disability and for parents themselves. I hope parents will take advantage of this training opportunity," says Patti Hackett, a keynote speaker at the Youth Leadership Conference.

Hackett is recognized as one of the most visionary, respected and productive leaders in the nation's ongoing efforts to provide and promote family-centered care and self-determination for youth with special health care needs.

Hackett, the mother of a young person with special health care needs, is a consultant with Disability Studies and Services Center, Academy for Educational Development of Washington, D.C.

The conference, "Racing to the Future in Good Health," is being sponsored by the Healthy Futures Project administered by the Coalition for Citizens with Disabilities, LIFE (Living Independence For Everyone), and the Children's Medical Program.

Healthy Futures is a grant from the U. S. Department of Health and Human Services, Maternal and Child Health Bureau.

"The Youth Leadership Conference is being held to enable young people with disabilities between the ages of 14 and 23 to become more involved in shaping their own futures. Parents and guardians play a huge role in these young people's success, so we are offering training to them as well.

"We hope parents will bring their adolescents to the training and will take advantage of the excellent speakers presenting to the parents in sessions separate from the youth. We want to empower these young people and their families to take leadership roles," says Healthy Future Project Director Sam Gleese.

There is no registration fee for the conference, but advance registration is required. Scholarships are also available to cover costs of lodging and transportation for those living in other areas of the state.

All young people with special health care needs

between the ages of 14 and 23 and their parents or guardians are eligible to attend.

For more information or

registration materials, contact Sam Gleese, Healthy Futures, Coalition for Citizens with Disabilities at 969-0601 or 1-800-748-9420.

Hancock County announces June 4 Primary poll workers

Ansley Lois A. Evans, Michael Spiers, Emelda Miles	Waveland West Sandra Harris, Alfred Pepperman, Bonnie Peterson	South Bay Alvina Nichols, Russell Fairconnetue, Wanda Fouasnon
Lakeshore Doris Jackson, Sharon Huffman, Gayle Bieller	Crane Creek Madeline Knight, Gladys Shaw, Hallie Ladner	Central School Eugene F. Monti, Joann Wroten, Max Wroten
Clermont Harbor Claudia M. Lawson, J.V. Ladner, Charles Henry Rood	Standard Eva Manuel, George Manuel, Bridget Manuel	Courthouse Dorothy DiBenedetto, Mary E. Ladner, Lana Noonam
Arlington Albert Jeanfreau, Jesse E. Jeanfreau, Christopher Schwartz	Dedeaux Eula Ladner, Earlene Dedeaux, Jo Ellen Niecaise	Edwardsville Bobbie Jo Mecune, Edna Puckett, Janet Power
Waveland East Earlene Ruhr, Shirley Cox, J. Ray Barrett	North Bay West Diana Brisolara, Linda Beauregard, Ruth Fouasnon	Fenton Aline Hoda, Dewey Hoda, Clara Hoda
Leetown Agnes Fleming, Betty Jo Seals, Shirley Goss	Diamondhead East Patricia Loftin, Carroll Loftin, Helen Hickman	Kiln East Cherly Lynn Lee Seals, Frankie Moran, Tere Carlin-Herlihy
Flat Top Natalie Cuevas, Marie Cuevas, Harold Doss	Kiln West Jeanette Necaise, Ruth Hass, Noel Moral	North Bay East Lucille Bourgeois, Alfred J. Geoffrey, Anna Mae Geoffrey
Cataboula Audie Landner, Doris Ladner, Woodrow Ladner	West Shoreline Park Anne Winslow, Pauline B. Reid, Erica Swartz	Hancock Amy Pavolini, Sarah Shiyou, Christine S. Spence
Pearlington Gussie Crawford, Cherly D. Ritter, Catherine Smith	City Hall Marcella Launeaus, Ruth Davis, Mamie Drummond	North Central Deborah L. Spence, David A. Spence, Lawrence Spence
Bayou Philip Jennette Ladner, Alice Spears, Tommy Spears		

ADD Clinic offers program for children

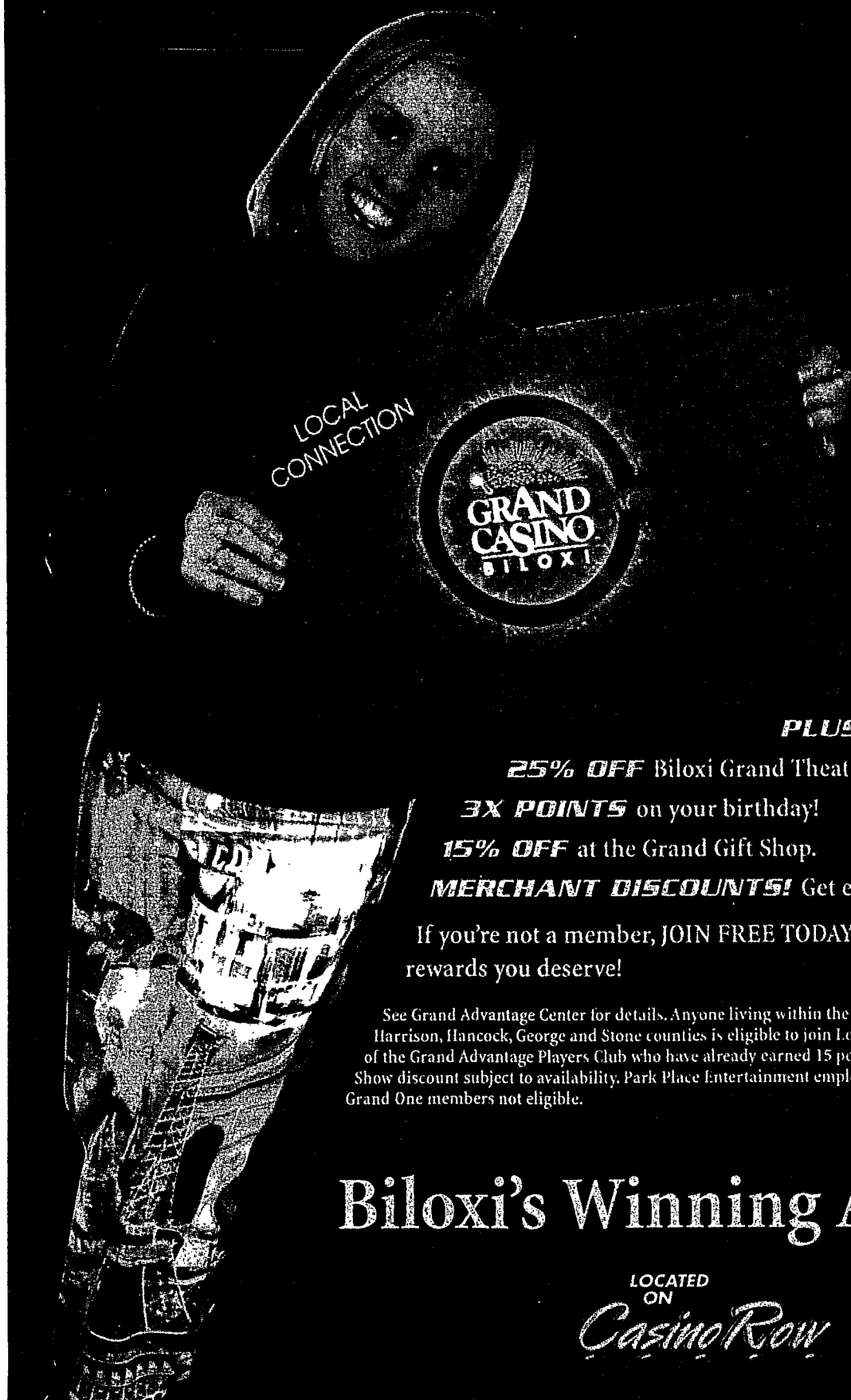
Dr. Grad Flick, director of the ADD Clinic in Biloxi, announces a summer program for children with ADD/ADHD (Attention Deficit) and related problems.

The program will last up to three weeks and will focus on each child's individual needs. Components will include development and improvement of social skills, self-control training for impulsivity, behaviorally-based attention training, dealing with homework issues, study skills and computerized training in reading and math skills.

For information, call (228) 435-2673.

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Marketplace Buffet

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If you're not a member, JOIN FREE TODAY with only 15 slot points and start reaping the rewards you deserve!

See Grand Advantage Center for details. Anyone living within the 395 zip code areas or Jackson, Harrison, Hancock, George and Stone counties is eligible to join Local Connection. All current members of the Grand Advantage Players Club who have already earned 15 points qualify for free membership. Show discount subject to availability. Park Place Entertainment employees not eligible. Grand One members not eligible.

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It was Tuesday time for officers and P

Pic: agencies cers wee Enforc to ear

C class by instr Sheriff

Don fugi

BY EL Publi Hanco Deputies domestic Sunday, ture of a using an

The ca gated by County Investiga Division Chief Lambert Malley domestic Winneba Caddy arrested name a Edsall, driver's him with on May 2

Throu identity later re Lee Pric tive fro also has for his a Lambert Lamb ing in "Edsall" been inv of drug Oklahon he had li ft. 3 inch 6 ft. tall "Inve

St. Fes

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Making the Law



It was graduation day Tuesday for new part-time law enforcement officers from Hancock and Pearl River counties, Waveland, Picayune and other agencies. The new officers completed a 20-week part-time Law Enforcement Academy to earn their Minimum Standards Certification. The class was conducted by instructors from the Hancock County Sheriff's Department.



Domestic violence call leads to Okalahoma fugitive's arrest, meth lab bust at Bayou Caddy

BY ELLIS C. CUEVAS
Publisher Emeritus

Hancock County Deputies responded to a domestic violence call on Sunday, leading to the capture of a Oklahoma fugitive using an alias.

The case is being investigated by both the Hancock County Sheriff's Investigators and Narcotics Division agents.

Chief Investigator Bob Lambert said, "Deputy Kent Malley responded to a domestic call to a Winnebago at a Bayou Caddy fishing camp. He arrested a person giving his name as Christopher D. Edsall, 40, with an Okla. driver's license and charged him with domestic violence on May 26."

Through fingerprints, the identity of the suspect was later revealed as Thomas Lee Price, 43, who is a fugitive from Oklahoma and also has a federal warrant for his arrest, according to Lambert.

Lambert reported receiving information that "Edsall" is alleged to have been involved in some types of drug activities. Also, the Oklahoma driver's license he had listed him as being 6 ft. 3 inches and he was only 6 ft. tall.

"Investigator John

Luther began questioning Edsall and also noted crude tattoos on his forearms (types usually done in jails), and asked if he ever had been arrested and he reported he had no criminal record," Lambert said, adding the man had a large amount of cash.

"Narcotics Division Agents Chris Russell and Abe Long were called in and received permission to search his Winnebago and they discovered several chemicals and paraphernalia for the manufacture of crystal meth."

Capt. Matt Karl, Narcotics Division director, reported that he contacted the Mississippi Bureau of Narcotics and agents were awaiting the arrival of a cleanup crew to come from Jackson Wednesday afternoon.

Officers also located numerous electronic items in the Winnebago and removed them and are checking to see if they are possibly stolen.

Hancock County charges are still pending in the case, according to Lambert and Karl, who said Price is now being held as a fugitive for Oklahoma and Federal authorities.

In other drug related matters, Narcotic Division

Agent Clifton "Bubba" Malley, reported the arrest of Bobby D. Beech, Jr. 36, Edwin Ladner Road, Harrison County, on Wednesday on charges of possession of a controlled substance, crystal meth, possession of marijuana and driving with a suspended license.

"Beech was stopped for a

Smooth ride ahead in 2003

BY SHANNON JENKINS
Staff Writer

Bumpy rides will be no more on Highway 90 between Interstate 10 and Waveland this time next year.

David Seyfarth, a resident engineer with the Mississippi Department of Transportation, said the scheduled completion date for pavement repair on Highway 90 is May 13, 2003.

Work remaining on the project, which began last August, are pavement repair, surface grinding, and shoulder paving in the eastbound lane. Additional turning lanes are also planned for construction.

Seyfarth said about a third of the six-mile project has been completed with portions of the work still underway. The \$4.9 million project is currently on schedule.

MDOT recently began another project at the Highway 53 and Highway 603 intersection, commonly called "Necaise Crossing."

The contract start date for the project was May 16 with a completion date of July 5, 2002.

MDOT is reconfiguring the intersection for safety purposes with an approximate contract cost of \$350,000.

traffic violation on the Kiln/DeLisle Road by Hancock Deputies Matt Barnett and Tina Ladner. A search of the vehicle revealed crystal meth and some marijuana," Malley said.

Beech's bond was set at \$6,500. Malley who is leading the investigation, reported late Wednesday.



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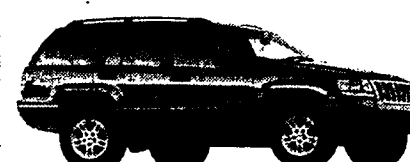
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St. Paul's Seafood Festival is this weekend

SPECIAL TO THE ECHO

Join in the food, fun and festivities of the 26th annual St. Paul's Seafood Festival, May 31 and June 1 and 2 on the grounds of St. Paul Catholic Church in Pass Christian. Featuring fresh Gulf Coast seafood, the menu includes savory gumbo, shrimp po-boys, seafood platters and world-famous crab stuffed potatoes, as well as new delicacies such as shrimp quesadillas and Shrimp Monique by JoAnn Hanson York and onion mums by Msgr. Dennis Carver.

For those interested in more than seafood, hamburgers, hot dogs and eggrolls will be available. Finish the meal with one of the sweet treats provided by St. Paul parishioners and the Sisters of Mercy. Entertainment begins Friday night with the cool sounds of STARZ at 8 p.m.

On Saturday night, everybody's favorite party band, Dr. Rock and the Interns, will jam from 8

until. Keith Hoda and The Beach Brothers will help close out the festival on Sunday. On Saturday, 6 - 8 p.m., Weird Wayne of Classic Rock 105.9 will host a special remote broadcast with loads of prizes from Triad Broadcasting and Budweiser. Once again, the kids can enjoy carnival rides and games.

Over 40 crafters will be featured this year, along with a silent auction of vacation packages, charter fishing trips, artwork, jewelry, sports memorabilia and much more. As a highlight of the silent auction, each class from St. Paul Elementary School has donated a school desk painted by local artists. Saturday morning, the Gulf Coast Running Club will host a 5K run at 8. Festival hours are Friday, from 5 p.m. to midnight; Saturday, from 11 a.m. to midnight; and Sunday, from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. For tickets and details on any of the events, call 228-452-7359.

You're Invited...

Hancock County Hurricane Fair and Hancock County Library System 2002 Summer Reading Program - Reading is a Picnic

With special guests: The Hurricane Hunters

Wednesday, June 5th from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m.

at the Stennis International Airport in Kiln

7059 Road C-Near the High School Stadium

Learn about safety and preparedness for Hurricanes and all natural disasters!

Special Exhibitors:

American Red Cross
Bookends and Author Dan Ellis
Cellular South
Coast Electric Power Association
(attend the Safety Around Electrical Lines demo)
Geotek Earth Imaging Center
Gulf South Shutter Company
Hancock Medical Center
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USM Gulf Park

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Hancock County Port & Harbor Commission
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Sign up for the Summer Reading Program "Reading is a picnic!"

Boy Scouts - gather information to earn your Emergency Preparedness Badge

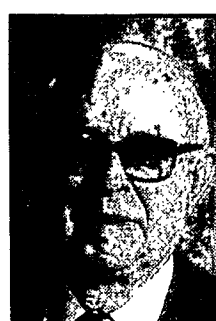
Workshop starts at 11:30 a.m.

American Red Cross (CPR demo)
Bay/Waveland/Hancock County Civil Defense
City of Bay St. Louis (tour the mobile fire house)
City of Waveland (ride the Waveland Fire Safety Train)
Civil Air Patrol - Diamondhead Squadron (see the Cessna 172)
Hancock County Board of Supervisors
Hancock County Historical Society
Hancock County Library System
Hancock County Sheriff's Office (sign up for Summer Camp Programs)
Hurricane Hunters - 403rd Wing Air Force Reserve
Mississippi Department of Health
Coastal Plain Public Health District IX
Mississippi Emergency Management Agency
National Weather Service
Small Business Administration
U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary (learn about boat safety)
West Coastal Mississippi Amateur Radio Emergency Service

THURSDAY, MAY 30, 2002

OPINION

pg 4A



Cuevas' Quotes

by Ellis C. Cuevas
Publisher Emeritus

Everybody come to the St. Paul Seafood Fest

There is never a shortage of celebrations in our area, as something special seems to always be going on throughout the year.

This coming weekend marks the 26th annual St. Paul's Seafood Festival in Pass Christian.

On the grounds of St. Paul Catholic Church in Pass Christian, Friday, Saturday and Sunday will be the place to be for many to get some very good seafoods, local favorites and live entertainment.

Festival hours are 5 p.m. to midnight Friday, 11 a.m. to midnight Saturday, and 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Sunday.

There will be some 40 crafters, a silent auction and carnival rides for the kids.

Food items will include gumbo, shrimp po-boys, seafood platters, crab-stuffed potatoes, shrimp quesadillas, shrimp monique, onion mums, etc.

Live entertainment will include STARZ at 7 p.m. Friday, Dr. Rock and the Interns at 8 p.m. Saturday, and Keith Hoda and The Beach Brothers on Sunday.

It should be a great time this weekend in the Pass at the Seafood Festival. We hope to see you there.

We have had another one of those dry seasons in Hancock County, and lawns are really showing the effects of low rain fall thus far this year.

Those living outside the municipalities need to remember there is now a burn ban in effect issued by Hancock County Fire Marshal Richard Pate.

Pate reports that we are in a very dry and dangerous situation, and the burn bans disallows any type of burning, even in barrels.

Hancock is not the only

county suffering from the lack of rain, as it seems the few showers just moved above the coastal areas.

To add to the dangers of the dry conditions are the windy conditions on most days.

Wildfires can be dangerous to homes, forest products, wild animals and even the firefighters who have to quell them.

Remember the burn ban until further notice.

The long-awaited expansion of the Waveland Library will soon be under way with the library closing the past Tuesday to transfer books to other locations until the expansion is complete.

Children from the Waveland area wishing to register in the Summer Reading Program may do so at any of the system's other three branches, Bay St. Louis, Kiln, or Pearlinton.

The expanded library will include many improvements, and the building's size will increase from 3,000 to 5,000 square feet. Our Hancock County Library System has been on the move in recent years and continues to expand to keep up with the growth of our county.

Prima Plauché, library system director, and her entire staff need to be commended for the great job they do.

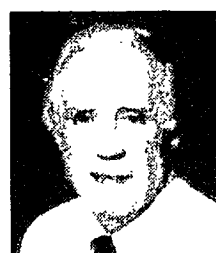
The Hancock County Library System also receives tremendous support from the board of directors, board of trustees, foundation members, advisory board members and our local elected officials.

Support is also received from the general public in many ways, especially by use of the facilities throughout the county.

We pay to house 600 'ghost inmates'

While the Legislature of-state keeps state institutions and agencies on a starvation diet in the current budget crunch, the five private prisons built during Mississippi's 1990s "lock 'em up" mania are feasting on taxpayer money.

For a second straight year, lawmakers rigged the Department of Corrections' appropriation to guarantee two of the least-needed private prisons, operated by big out-



Eyes on Mississippi
By Bill Minor

corporations, will get paid to house dozens of "ghost inmates," in prison beds Corrections Commissioner Robert Johnson says he doesn't need.

For two years running, the Legislature has trumped Gov. Ronnie Musgrove's veto of legislation to pay the private prisons for the unneeded beds. Worse, the price at the for-profit lock-ups is three times higher

than it costs to house inmates in state-operated facilities.

This waste of taxpayer money, mind you, comes at a time that student tuition fees at state colleges are being hiked for the fourth time in four years because the Legislature has underfunded institutions of higher learning by about \$70 million.

The litany of programs cut in the FY 2003 budget goes on and on. Significantly lawmakers left a \$19 million deficit in the Corrections Department budget.

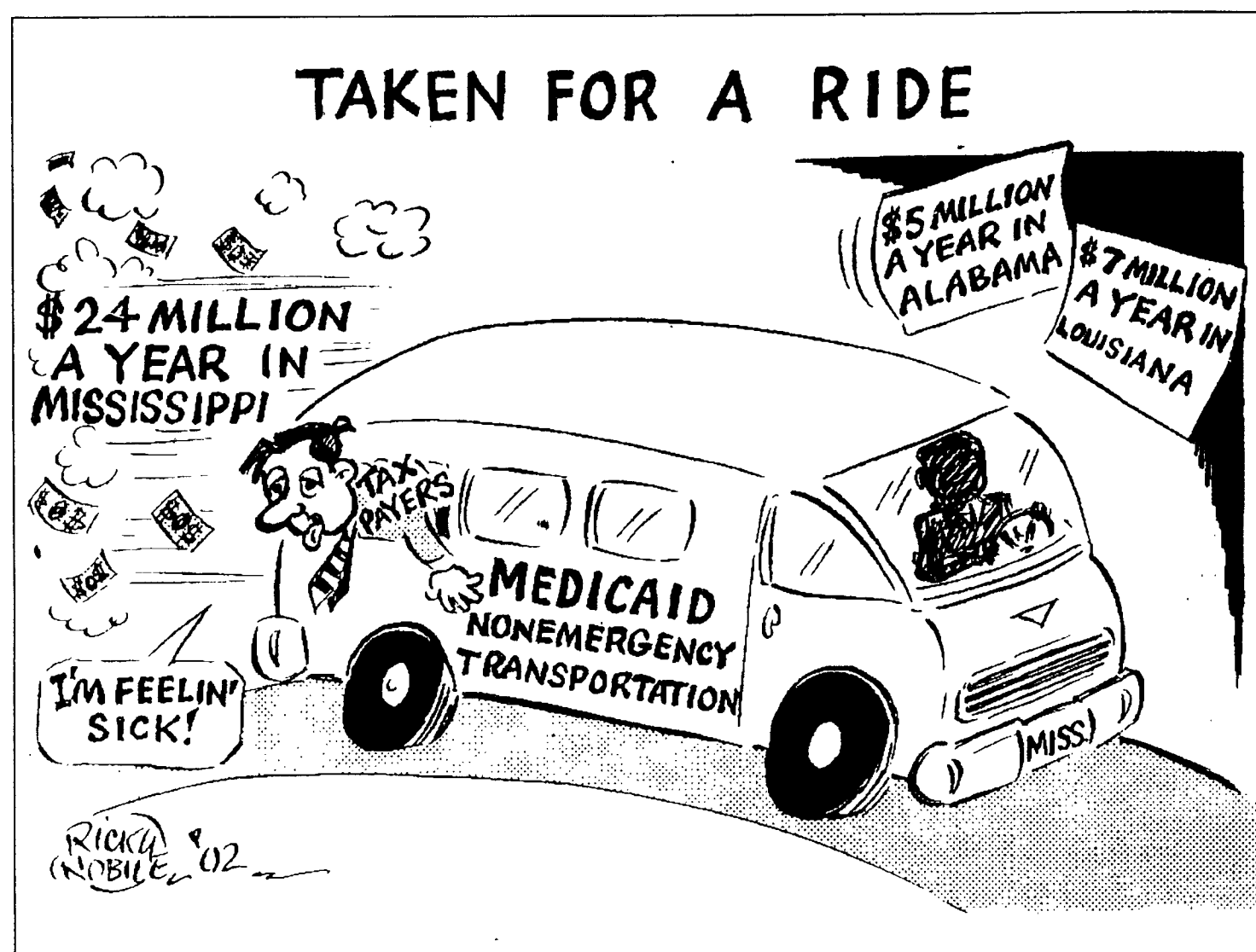
But the bitter irony of the

Corrections appropriation is that lawmakers stuck in \$54 million to fully fund contracts with the private prisons, but short-changed other programs, among them medical care of inmates, utilities and clothing and feeding inmates.

Wait 'til you hear the howl local county sheriffs will let out after July 1 when they find the Corrections Department is \$7 million short on funds to pay for holding state inmates in county jails.

Last summer, the farce of Mississippi, one of the

MINOR-PAGE 5A



Letters to the Editor

Hancock County has some good Samaritans

To the Editor:

I would like to thank some Hancock County citizens who took time out from their busy Memorial Day schedule to help some visitors to the area.

On Friday, May 24, my son and his friend were traveling here from Texas to visit my husband and me. They were having car trouble, but were able to make it to the Stennis Exit.

Mr. Rocky Pullman stopped to assist them. Although they were unable to solve the problem, he stayed with them until we were able to get them and tow the car.

I work for the county, but don't really know Mr. Pullman nor does he know me or my son.

We towed the car to Sam Pernicaro & Son's Auto Repair Shop. It was now 4 p.m., and Sammy and his crew were doing their best

to finish up for the day so they could enjoy the three-day holiday but stopped what they were doing to see if they could locate the car problem.

Thankfully it was a minor problem, which they were able to fix in a matter of minutes.

In the busy world we all live in, I'm sure neither Mr. Pullman nor Sammy had extra time to devote to my son, but both of them helped without giving it a second thought.

So to Mr. Pullman, Sammy and his staff and the thousand of other people who daily help others just because they care, may I simply say "thank you" for your kindness and for reminding me of the reason we are here - to help each other.

Sincerely,
Kay Kihnemann
Waveland

I like the Echo!

To the Editor:

I have been reading the Sea Coast Echo for 20 years and think it is a great little newspaper.

I was shocked at the harsh criticism presented by Jim Dalrymple in the

Sunday paper (May 26).

Perhaps he is a newcomer, and we should just overlook it.

Sincerely,
Edith Grant
Waveland

Our letters policy

The Sea Coast Echo welcomes comments from its readers. Letters must be signed and include address or telephone number. Letters should be brief, preferably typewritten and double-spaced. Only one letter per writer per month. The editor reserves the right to edit or reject letters. Letters of thanks, expressions of appreciation and political endorsements are inappropriate.

Waveland Animal Shelter goes beyond call of duty

To the Editor:

The director and staff at the Waveland Animal Shelter perform a difficult, often unpleasant and even heartbreaking job. They do their job with a dedication and compassion that goes far beyond the job description.

The primary function of a city/government-run shelter operation is animal control, yet time and time again we have witnessed staff members going the extra mile, striving to give care, comfort and attention to the animals.

They all work to make the shelter more than simply a "holding facility," giving it a clean and pleasant appearance, and making improvements as quickly as time and a limited budget allows.

When "Friends of the Animal Shelter in Hancock County" was formed in June, 2001 the shelter staff met our groups support

with overwhelming cooperation and enthusiasm.

Many members of our group have worked closely with the shelter staff in various capacities, such as adoption placement, fundraising, and the construction of the new on-site spay/neuter facility.

We are fortunate indeed to have individuals as dedicated and caring as shelter director Valerie Viescus, the animal control officers, and the entire staff at the Waveland Animal Shelter.

By working together to improve animals' lives, we also improve the quality of life for the people living in Hancock County.

Paula Leoni, President
Micky Evans, Vice President
Tammy Cimalore, Secretary
Maureen Waddell, Treasurer
Friends of the Animal Shelter in Hancock County

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Minor -- 'ghost inmates'

nation's poorest states, committing itself to pay two of the nation's largest private prison companies for "ghost inmates" had drawn the attention of the Wall Street Journal which dug into the story big time.

As the Journal story disclosed, two of Mississippi's highest paid legislative lobbyists - Spencer E. "Buddy" Medlin and Al Sage - who represent two big private prison companies, had cleverly rigged corrections appropriation bills, with the help of powerful lawmaker allies, so their clients wouldn't lose money on their operations at Greenwood and Holly Springs.

Medlin is the local lobbyist for Corrections Corporation of America which operates Delta Corrections at Greenwood, and Sage represents Wackenhut Corrections Corp., that runs the lockup at Holly Springs, both 1000-bed facilities. Greenwood needed for the state to pay for at least 843 inmates and Holly Springs 871 for the two Mississippi lockups to be profitable.

Low and behold, when the Corrections Department's appropriation came out of the final legislative process, the bill committed the department to pay for exactly that many beds at the two facilities, whether or not it had bodies

to fill them.

On top of that, lawmakers had earlier slipped in legislation guaranteeing that the 11 regional prisons around the state (each operated jointly by several counties) would be guaranteed at least 200 state inmates.

The regional prisons were being protected by another well-paid lobbyist, former Rep. Charlie Weissenger who the Legislative Peer Committee earlier had disclosed was being paid in excess of \$300,000 to lobby for them.

An irate Musgrove had vetoed the corrections department bill. But a day later the Legislature overrode him after two key lawmakers, Sen. Bunky Huggins of Greenwood and Sen. Jack Gordon of Okolona, the Senate's Appropriations chairman, had been wined and dined by Wackenhut's president, Wayne Calabrese, along with Al Sage.

Corrections Commissioner Johnson promptly charged in a press conference that he was being forced to pay for housing some 600 "ghost inmates."

Frustrated, a couple months later Johnson ordered 154 inmates sent from state-operated prisons to the Wackenhut-run facility in Holly Springs, and 83 inmates to the Greenwood lockup.

The state had erected some seven new state-operated prison facilities during the 1990s when the "85 percent" rule of mandatory jail time was rigidly enforced. By 2001 the state found itself with some 2000 beds more than it had prisoners to fill.

"We already have the infrastructure and plant, and the security personnel in place," Johnson says, adding "consequently our cost to house a prisoner is \$8.43 a day, while we have to pay the private prisons \$30 to \$34 a day."

This year Johnson wanted to keep a provision in his budget giving him the discretion to move 15 percent around in any of the programs under his department, including the private prisons, but the 2002 Legislature wrote in language preventing him from touching the private prison payments.

The governor issued a partial veto to strike that provision. However, lawmakers secured an opinion from Atty. Gen. Mike Moore that he didn't have the power to make such a partial veto. When the Corrections appropriation becomes effective on July 1, a legal test is likely to arise if Johnson moves any of what he contends is \$4 million over-funding of the private prison program.

"I'm not opposed to pri-

Continued from Page 4A

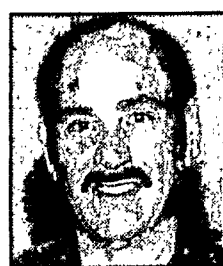
vate prisons," the Corrections commissioner says. "I'm opposed to subsidizing their operations."

Wait and see how this all plays out: If Johnson wins, could Buddy Medlin lose his \$36,000 lobby fee from CCA and Al Sage his \$30,000 fee from Wackenhut? Stay tuned.

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Dreher announces for chancery judge

William W. "Bill" Dreher, Jr., 51, has declared his Candidacy for Chancery Court Judge Place 2 in the Eighth Chancery Court District, which includes Hancock, Harrison and Stone Counties.

Bill is a life long resident of the Mississippi Gulf Coast. He currently lives in Pass Christian with his wife, the former Melanie Holder of Gulfport. They have two children. Bill (III) is a member of this father's law office and practices much of the time in Circuit Court. Their daughter, Julie, is working on her degree as a paralegal at Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College, Jefferson Davis Campus and works in the family law practice.

After serving honorably in the United States Army, Bill attended the Jefferson Davis Campus of the Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College before transferring to the University of Southern Mississippi where he received his degree in polymer science. Bill then went to work at Stennis Space Center where he was employed as an analytical chemist for several government agencies and contractors at NASA.

While still maintaining a job at Stennis, Bill began attending law school in New Orleans, eventually earning his Juris Doctor Degree from Loyola University School of Law in 1995. He has been practicing law



William W. Dreher

throughout Mississippi for the past seven years, while maintaining his office in Gulfport.

Bill is a member of the Coast Chamber of Commerce, the Mississippi Bar Association, and the Harrison County Bar Association. Most recently, he has been the attorney for the Standard Dedeaux Water Association, being instrumental in its creation and water service provided to the community. He has actively supported the children of the community as a coach in baseball, football, track, and softball.

Bill states that he intends "to treat everyone with courtesy and with respect and to do the utmost to restore public confidence and integrity to the office of the Chancery Court if elected to Chancery Court Judge Place 2 by the good people of the Eighth Chancery Court District. Chancery Court Judge is public service not politics."

Arts and Creative Crafts Show at Diamondhead

The 19th annual Arts and Creative Crafts Show at Diamondhead will be Saturday, Sept. 28 from 9:30 a.m. till 5 p.m. and Sunday, Sept. 29 from 11 a.m. till 4 p.m. on the County Club Circle and grounds.

More than 100 booths will be set up with handmade crafts and multimedia art works for sale.

Diamondhead Country Club will provide sandwiches and drinks at an outside concession.

Diamondhead is located

at Exit 16, off Interstate 10.

All proceeds from booth space fees are donated equally to Diamondhead Youth Organization, and the Diamondhead Community Association Continuing Education, non-profit organizations.

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Helping Hope Haven



Hope Haven-founder Terry Latham accepts a \$2,000 donation from Swifty-Serve/Majic Market/EZ-Serve District Mgr. Janet Schroll, left, and Asst. Mgr. Shirley Tillman.



Latham accepts a donation of \$8,787 from Treasure Bay Casino Resort for Hope Haven. Pictured are Michelle Chatham, Treasure Bay Casino Resort employee relations manager, left; and Rhonda Roberts, public relations manager.

MSU helps Stennis Space Center with natural resource management

SPECIAL TO THE ECHO

There's much more to Hancock County's John C. Stennis Space Center than high-tech laboratories and giant rocket engine test stands.

The latest in space-age technology exists along with virtually every species of wildlife represented in South Mississippi.

The almost 16,000 acres - about 25 square miles - that encompass the National Aeronautics and Space Administration facility on the Pearl River "is very rich in natural resources," said Don Grebner, assistant professor of forestry at Mississippi State University.

With a grant totaling nearly \$100,000, Grebner

has begun directing a new project to provide NASA with resource management information.

He and other scientists in MSU's departments of forestry and wildlife and fisheries will develop plans to integrate timber harvest and production with wildlife conservation.

"The space center is interested both in producing timber and conserving wildlife, including species with declining regional populations," Grebner said.

"Because of the abundance of diverse forest habitats and proximity to New Orleans and the Mississippi Gulf Coast, it's an important natural resource that should be managed for multiple uses."

Over the next two years, MSU's Forest and Wildlife Research Center personnel will collect data on Stennis' wildlife and plant populations. Bobwhite quail, white-tailed deer, wild hogs, toads, and plants that indicate wetland habitats will be studied.

The resulting data then will be used to enhance the space center's management planning for the forests and wetlands.

"The information we present will provide for healthy and productive tree stands, vegetative diversity, forage production for wildlife and a wetland mitigation strategy," Grebner said. "It also may provide potential opportunities for recreational uses."

Social Singles to join in La. picnic

Social Singles members will join other singles groups for a picnic in Slidell Sunday, June 2.

Social Singles, an organization devoted to building friendships among adult singles on the Coast, will attend the picnic along with groups from New Orleans, Hattiesburg and Slidell.

The picnic is one of the special activities offered by Social Singles, which is run by Executive Director Joyce Romm of Pass Christian.

The group also has regular meetings, the next of which is June 4, 6:30-8:30 p.m., at the Fish 'n Bones restaurant in Long Beach.

The discussion topic will be Richard Carlson's book *Don't Sweat the Small Stuff, Because it's All Small Stuff*.

The charge for the meeting is \$10 for members, \$15 for non-members where annual membership is \$25.

For more information, contact Romm at (228) 452-2358 or by e-mail at joyce@romm.org.

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Pictured following the Mississippi Arts Fair for the Handicapped (MAFH) board meeting on the upcoming Arts Fair events are, from left, Senator Tommy Gollott (Biloxi), MAFH treasurer; Representative Frank Hamilton (Hurley), MAFH vice-president-elect and member of the MAFH Board of Directors; Representative Frances Fredericks (Gulfport), president of the MAFH; Dr. Pamela C. Baker (Long Beach), MAFH secretary and director of South Mississippi Regional Center; Representative J.P. Compretta (Bay St. Louis), member of the MAFH Board of Directors; and Dr. Randy Hendrix (Jackson), MAFH executive director and executive director of the Mississippi Department of Mental Health.

MAFH showcases talent from around Mississippi

The Mississippi Arts Fair for the Handicapped (MAFH), co-hosted by the city of Biloxi and the South Mississippi Regional Center, will be on Tuesday through Thursday, June 18-20, at the Mississippi Coast Convention Center in Biloxi.

Theme of the 26th annual statewide event will be "Mississippi Arts Fair for the Handicapped; Spirit of America: We the people."

Individuals with disabilities from around the state will express and share their talents during the three-day fair. Performance arts presentations, information-

al displays and arts and crafts are all features of this year's MAFH.

Opening remarks and ceremonies for the MAFH are at the Mississippi Coast Convention Center, beginning with guest recognition and remarks at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, June 18, followed by opening ceremonies, including performance highlights by fair participants, beginning at 7 p.m.

For further information, contact Helene Roth, Public Relations, South Mississippi Regional Center at (228) 868-2923.

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Drill -- Port Bienville

this full-scale emergency drill. Those objectives were to "demonstrate the ability of notification to response agencies and to mobilize emergency personnel; to demonstrate the ability to direct, coordinate, and control emergency response activities through operations of an incident command system and other direction and control structures; and to demonstrate the ability to establish and maintain communications essential to support response to an incident/accident."

The drill consisted of a simulation that follows the procedures used during an actual emergency: A 911 call

is made; 911 dispatches a police unit to the scene of the accident; 911 calls the fire department and AMR; upon arrival, duties are assigned to the various public safety agencies; the sheriff's office handles traffic control; and the fire department sizes up the situation.

During this procedure, an incident commander will be established. In this drill, Kim Jones, chief of West Hancock Fire and Rescue, served as incident commander. It was Jones' duty to coordinate the emergency operation. Representatives from each public safety agency were responsible for keeping in contact with other personnel on the acci-

dent scene, finding out what's going on, and reporting this information to Jones.

According to several public safety representatives present at Polychemie's first disaster drill, the simulation went well. During a critique afterwards, representatives gathered to discuss any problems that arose during the drill.

"There were a few deficiencies in (the fire department) and a few in the company as well," said Jones. He said there were only minor details needing improvement for a smoother operation.

Chris Cirillo, director of operations for the Gulf

Continued from Page 1A

Coast Division of AMR, was on hand to oversee and evaluate the response of the medical personnel on the scene.

"AMR's challenge will be to educate other public safety agencies of its resources available to help on the scene of an emergency of this nature," Cirillo said. He said AMR has a 40-foot RV that houses technology equipped to handle such situations in Hancock and Harrison counties.

"All of the agencies learned a lot from the drill," he said. "It gave the new leaders at the plant and fire station an opportunity to handle an emergency situation like this."

Levy -- suit filed

The district alleges, among other things, that Levy did not perform duties according to the specifications of his contract in regard to inspections as construction progressed and that he used materials that were substandard or did not install equipment at all.

The district also alleges that because the completion of the water system has been delayed, the district has lost substantial revenue as a result of lost customer service fees; tap fees which will have to be refunded; and engineering fees as a

result of having to hire another engineering firm to complete the job. The suit said that the district paid Levy \$17,794 for engineering services and \$90,422 to provide resident inspection of the project which the board alleges were performed inadequately.

The district also alleges a conflict of interest due to the fact that Levy also serves as consulting engineer to Southern Regional Wastewater Management District.

District officials declined comment yesterday, defer-

ring to legal counsel.

In a press release Wednesday, Levy said, "For weeks we, and our attorneys, have been requesting the Hancock County Water and Sewer District to produce documentation and evidence of their claims. For the most part our repeated requests were ignored. Finally on May 17, 2002, less than two weeks ago, we were permitted to inspect documents. As we always knew, the District had no evidence to back up its claims and we, in no uncertain terms, advised the

Continued from Page 1A

District we intended to proceed with litigation against them. Apparently, the District felt it better to file suit first and to notify the press even before we were made aware of it. One must wonder aloud why such would be done.

"Regardless, Duke Levy and Associates looks forward to the lawsuit where these people can be placed under oath and we can finally get to the truth. All future questions can be directed to our attorneys, Dean and Tim Holleman," Levy concluded.

Waste -- illegal

Continued from Page 1A

completely cleaned up, with no indication of lasting environmental impact or health-damaging effects.

"The larger problem," MDEQ Chief of Emergency Services Eric Dear said Wednesday, "is that we have this happening all the time in the Hancock County and Pearl River County area."

Jones said he and his department had reported three other barrels dumped nearby in late 2001.

Dear said he believes that Hancock and Pearl River counties have heavily wooded rural areas right along the Louisiana border

that make them "attractive" to people who want to illegally dump hazardous materials, although so far, he can't prove it.

The good news, he said, is that local law enforcement and fire officials and game wardens have "done an excellent job" of reporting and following up on incidents. He praised Jones, the West Hancock Fire Department and Mississippi Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) for quick action in the latest incident.

"They always do a great job," he said.

The maximum fine for illegal dumping of hazardous materials is \$25,000 per day, Dear said, and there are also "severe criminal penalties," such as jail time.

"If someone is caught (illegally) dumping hazardous material," he said, "DEQ will do everything it can to see the full extent of the law is applied."

To report illegal dumping, call the Hancock County Sheriff's Department at 467-5101 or the Mississippi Emergency Management Agency at (601) 352-9100.

Bridge -- stuck

Continued from Page 1A

after operators opened it to let a barge go through.

A Mississippi Department of Transportation spokeswoman said yesterday that the bridge got stuck due to a mechanical problem, which has now been repaired.

Bay St. Louis Assistant Police Chief David Stepro said yesterday that police diverted traffic on the Bay St. Louis side to Hwy. 603 to

take I-10 into Harrison County and - other than some people being held up for nearly an hour on their way to work - there were no serious complications.

"We weren't in danger or anything like that," Stepro said. "We have our own hospital, law enforcement, fire response and other emergency services. The only problem we would have had would have been if other

people were coming (from Harrison County) to assist us with some emergency, they would have been rerouted."

Stepro said the malfunction would not have occurred in the event of a hurricane - the bridge is locked in the down position during a hurricane warning - but even if it had, there are other emergency escape routes.

Bay St. Louis cheerleading registration

Bay St. Louis City League will continue registering through June 6, 5:30-7:30 p.m., at the Baseball Complex and McDonald Field.

Cost for cheerleading will be \$115 for new cheerlead-

ers. This includes a new uniform, new pompons, bloomers and socks.

Cost for returning cheerleaders will be \$72.

Bloomers and socks from last year will be used, and new uniforms and pompons

will be kept for the next two years.

Bring a copy of the child's birth certificate to registration.

For information or to register, call Tammy Woods at 467-7506.

Pass Christian Library begins 'Art For Youths Sake' program

"Art For Youths Sake" is a free art program co-sponsored by the Pass Christian Library and the Pass Christian Art Association.

Class times are Thursdays, June 13 and 20 and July 11 and 18 at 2 p.m. at the Pass Christian Library.

Registration of youths between 11 and 15 will be taken every Monday the week prior to the class on Thursday. Call 452-4596 for information. You may call in on Monday or come by and sign in.

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The office of the Circuit Clerk of Hancock County will be open for absentee voting from 8:00 a.m. until noon on Saturday, May 25, 2002.

The deadline for voting absentee in the office of the Circuit Clerk will be on Saturday, June 1, 2002 at 12:00 noon.

Pamela Thomas Metzler
Circuit Clerk

Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

Kiln Water & Fire Protection District

PWS ID # 0230050

May 2002

We're pleased to present to you this year's Annual Quality Water Report. This report is designed to inform you about the quality water and services we deliver to you every day. Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water. Our water source is groundwater, and our wells draw from the Graham Ferry Formation. The source water assessment report has yet to be completed for this system. When it is completed it will be available for public review.

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact Pat Curet at (228) 255 - 2595. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regular meetings. Meetings are held at 7 P.M. on the second Wednesday of each month at the fire station.

The Kiln Water & Fire Protection District routinely monitors for constituents in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. This table shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1st to December 31st, 2001. In cases where monitoring wasn't required in 2001, the table reflects the most recent results. As water travels over the land or underground, it can pick up substances or contaminants such as microbes, inorganic and organic chemicals, and radioactive substances. All drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some constituents. It's important to remember that the presence of these constituents does not necessarily pose a health risk.

In this table you may find many terms and abbreviations you might not be familiar with. To help you better understand these terms we've provided the following definitions:

Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mg/l) - one part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in \$10,000.
Parts per billion (ppb) or Micrograms per liter - one part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000.
Picocuries per liter (pCi/L) - picocuries per liter is a measure of the radioactivity in water.
Action Level - the concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
Treatment Technique (TT) - A treatment technique is a required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
Maximum Contaminant Level - The "Maximum Allowed" (MCL) is the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.
Maximum Contaminant Level Goal - The "Goal" (MCLG) is the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

TEST RESULTS

Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Date Collected	Level Detected	Range of Detects or # of Samples Exceeding MCL/ACL	Unit Measurement	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Radioactive Contaminants								
4. Beta/photom emitters	N		1.40	No Range	pCi/l	0	50	Decay of natural and man-made deposits
Inorganic Contaminants								
10. Barium	N	*2000	0.011	0.005-0.011	ppm	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
12. Cadmium	N	*2000	0.10	No Range	ppb	5	5	Corrosion of galvanized pipes; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from metal refineries; runoff from waste batteries and paints
13. Chromium	N	*2000	2	1-2	ppb	100	100	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; erosion of natural deposits
14. Copper	N	*2000	0.376	0	ppm	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
17. Lead	N	*2000	4	0	ppb	0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits

* No samples were required in 2001

All sources of drinking water are subject to potential contamination by substances that are naturally occurring or man made. These substances can be microbes, inorganic or organic chemicals and radioactive substances. All drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by cryptosporidium and other microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

Please call our office if you have questions.

We ask that all our customers help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community, our way of life and our children's future.

Obituaries

HOSS KEELER BETTY WALKER

HOSS KEELER
Hoss Marion Keeler, 28, of Theodore, Ala., died Thursday, May 23, 2002 in Theodore.

Mr. Keeler was a native of New Orleans and resided with his family in Waveland from 1977 to 1988 when he moved to Alabama. He was a member of Calvary Assembly Church in Alabama.

Survivors include his wife, Hillary Grable Keeler, and sons Nave and Quaid Keeler, all of Theodore; his parents, Dennis and Sharon Keeler of Mobile; brothers Dennis Keeler Jr. and Luke Keeler, both of New Orleans, and Hollis Cleveland of New Orleans; sisters Sheri England and Jessica Keeler; and nieces Tiffanie and Tannae Thompson, all of Mobile.

Visitation was Tuesday followed by services at Gilmer's Funeral Home Chapel in Mobile. Burial was in Catholic Cemetery in Mobile.

BETTY WALKER

Betty Mendenhall Walker, 79, of Diamondhead, died Sunday, May 26, 2002, in Diamondhead.

Mrs. Walker was born in Champaign, Ill. Feb. 5, 1923. She was educated in California and lived there 65 years. She chose a career promoting food product sales, and she was a member of the Diamondhead Yacht Club.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Mendenhall.

Survivors include her husband of 61 years, Robert F. Walker, Sr.; a son, Robert F. Walker II and wife Lady V. Walker; a brother, W. C. Mendenhall, of Potter Valley, Calif.; four grandchildren, three adopted grandchildren, three great-grandchildren and five adopted great-grandchildren. Interment was Wednesday in Biloxi National Cemetery. A memorial service will be conducted at a later date.

Edmond Fahey Funeral Home in Bay St. Louis was in charge of arrangements.

Volunteers visit cancer research labs



Six Coast residents recently toured cancer research labs in New Orleans. Pictured from left to right are: Mike Smith, Melanie Smith, Bonnie Cotman, Sherry Ponder, Jessie Coker, American Cancer Society-funded researcher Kevin Brown and Linda Lewandoski.

Six American Cancer Society volunteers from the Mississippi Gulf Coast witnessed firsthand recently the strides American Cancer Society researchers are making against cancer.

Jessie Coker of Biloxi, Bonnie Cotman of Gulfport, Linda Lewandoski of Long Beach, Sherry Ponder of Waveland and Mike and Melanie Smith of Waveland attended the annual research tour at LSU Health Sciences Center in New Orleans.

The laboratory visit was part of the American Cancer Society's Research Tour.

The group listened to brief presentations by three American Cancer Society-funded researchers, and they toured the labs of

Kevin Brown, Ph.D., an LSU researcher who is examining ways to keep DNA healthy and how that relates to the development of cancer.

Since the inception of the American Cancer Society's research program in 1946, the organization has given more than \$2.3 billion dollars to support cancer research.

In Mississippi this year, more than 14,400 people will learn they have cancer and 6,200 people will die. The American Cancer Society believes that research is the key to helping those who are suffering from the devastating disease. The American Cancer Society is committed to fighting cancer through

research, education, advocacy and service.

Currently in Mississippi, the American Cancer Society devotes more than \$777,000 to cancer research. The American Cancer Society currently spends \$120 million annually on research.

The American Cancer Society funds researchers on the frontlines in the fight against cancer. The organization has been involved with many of the cancer research breakthroughs of the century including mammography, the Pap test, a cure for childhood leukemia with combination chemotherapy, and tamoxifen.

The American Cancer Society is the nationwide,

community-based, voluntary health organization dedicated to eliminating cancer as a major health problem by preventing cancer, saving lives and diminishing suffering from cancer through research, education, advocacy, and service.

For more information, contact the American Cancer Society at 1-800-ACS-2345 or www.cancer.org.

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Crosby Arboretum events

Aquatic and Bog Plant Sale
Saturday, June 1
Member sale:
9 am to 10 am
Public sale:
10 am to 3 pm

There will be a great selection of hard-to-find water and bog plants for your water garden. Don't miss our selection of beautiful varieties of pitcher plants, dozens of hardy and tropical water lilies, Louisiana iris, and a host of other wetland plants. Free admission and open to the public. Arboretum Greenhouse.

Back to the Bogs!
Sunday, June 9
8 am to 11 am

Join us on a half day of bog tours filled with color. First we will carpool to Hillside Bog Natural Area in Hancock County. Hillside Bog is famous for its representation of pitcher plants and a wealth of other wetland plants.

Then we will visit the unique bog garden of Coleman Tarnok in Carriere. Mr. Tarnok has the finest collection of southeastern pitcher plants and their hybrids around.

Bring boots and refreshments to this treat.

Meet at the Crosby Arboretum Visitors Center

parking area at 8 am sharp to carpool.

Members, \$5; non-members, \$8.

Return of the Natives
A Mississippi Native Plant Society Conference
Saturday, June 15
9 am to 4 pm

Join us for a wonderful day devoted to the discussion and field identification of our favorite native plants. Sponsored by the Crosby Arboretum and the Mississippi Native Plant Society.

Free admission and the general public is invited.

AGENDA

9 a.m., Welcome, Bob Brzuszek, president, Mississippi Native Plant Society

9:15 a.m., The Native Plant Cultivar Revolution, Bob Brzuszek

10 a.m., Prairie Restoration, Marc Pastorek, Meadowmakers

11 a.m., Designing with Native Plants, John Mayronne, Native Landscape Corporation

11:40 a.m., Brown bag lunch

12:15 p.m., Tour of the Crosby Arboretum

1:45 p.m., Leave to tour Meadowmakers Farm, Henleyfield

4 p.m., Adjourn

Hours of operation are 9 am to 5 pm Wednesday through Sunday, and admission is \$4 for adults, \$2 for children under 12.

Births

CAMERON GUY CORR

Mr. and Mrs. Rodney O. Corr of Bay St. Louis announce the birth of their third child, Cameron Guy, May 13, 2002 at 5:37 p.m. at Garden Park Hospital.

He weighed 7 pounds, 9 ounces.

Mrs. Corr is the former Tammy Cremer.

Maternal grandparents are Stan and Fran Cremer of Diamondhead.

Paternal grandmother is Janet Corr of Bay St. Louis.

Great-grandparents include Margaret Shipp of McComb, Miss. and Cadmus and Beverly Shipp of Grand Gulf, Miss.

Cameron is welcomed by brothers Kyle and Reagan.

HAYDEN FAIRLEY MATHESON

Mr. and Mrs. Duncan Fairley Matheson, IV of Toronto, Ontario, Canada announce the birth of their first child, Hayden Fairley, May 15, 2002 at 8:12 a.m. at Women's College Hospital.

She weighed 8 pounds, 4

ounces.

Mrs. Matheson is the former Karyn Foster.

Maternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Craig Foster of Bay St. Louis.

Paternal grandparents are Dr. Skip and Dr. Sue A. Matheson of Diamondhead.

Great-grandparents include Mrs. D. F. Matheson, Jr. of Hattiesburg and Mr. and Mrs. Orin Foster of Natchitoches, La.

Vacation Bible School at Mt. Chapel Baptist

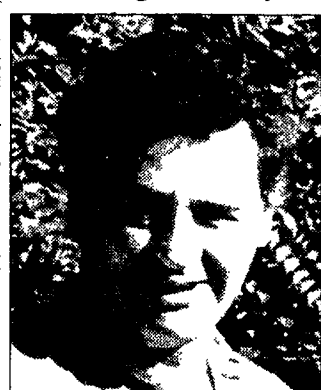
Mt. Chapel Baptist Church at 721 Herlihy St., Waveland, will host a Vacation Bible School June 3-7, 6:30 nightly. The public is invited.

First Missionary Baptist Bible School, basketball shootout at MLK Park

First Missionary Baptist Church at Sycamore & Third St., Bay St. Louis, will host Vacation Bible School June 3-8, 5:45-8:15 each night. Dinner served. Picnic and activities on Saturday, June 8, for all VBS attendees. Register now by calling 255-9528 or 452-1935.

Registration round-up this Sunday at 4 p.m. at MLK Park, Washington Ave., with basketball shoot-out. Prizes for winner. FMBC drill team performs.

In Loving Memory of



David James Necaise
November 4, 1955 -
May 31, 2000

How do you tell your loved one good-bye? Like a bright sunny day, then clouds fill the sky, From no where it seems, your tears start to flow, You feel in your heart you have no place to go. It is like you can not find a place to hide, To take away your pain deep down inside, You try to remember the good times you had, Yet even these memories can make you sad. The time it has passed, you feel better now, You got through this time, yet you know not how. Can you really ever say good-bye to a loved one so dear? Some pray it will get better with each passing year.

From the Hearts of your family
Mom, Dad, Brothers,
Sisters & Families

"Special Thanks"

The family of the late Darlene Bedford wishes to thank their many friends and neighbors for their kind expressions of sympathy, beautiful floral offerings and donations during their recent bereavement.

We would also like to thank Edmond Fahey Funeral Home, Bereavement Committee of Kiln Annunciation Church, Casino Magic & employees, Ruby Begonia Flowers and Gifts and Father Noone of Kiln Annunciation Church.

"Special Thanks"

Children, Mother, Father, Sister, Brother and all other relatives



Dale Sellier Schill
January 14, 1944 -
May 29, 2001

Sadly Missed by
Husband, Daughters
and Grandchildren

PREPARING FOR TOMORROW TODAY

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• **Unexplained falls** • **Unexplained cuts and bruises**

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BUSINESS NEWS

Advance Auto Parts opens new store in Bay St. Louis

Advance Auto Parts has officially opened its new store at 1145 Highway 90, Bay St. Louis, following extensive renovations to convert the former Discount Auto Parts store.

"While the physical changes are readily apparent, it's the behind-the-scenes improvements that benefit customers," said Tim Wilks, Advance Auto Part's regional vice president.

"Customers will find more name-brand parts in stock, more store employees, and competitive prices at these new stores."

Advance Auto Parts will continue to honor all Discount Auto Parts product warranties.

The new Advance Auto Parts store is among the first in the nation to receive the new store design and logo. The new design is based on extensive consumer research and shopping preferences.

The store feature a completely redesigned interior layout with new fixtures and counters, brighter colors, and television monitors broadcasting the Advance Auto Parts Television Network.

Individual customer workstations with new Windows-based computer systems make looking up parts faster and easier.

Expert advice and fast parts delivery are signature services at Advance Auto Parts. Along with the thousands of parts already available at the new stores, Advance Auto Parts PDQ (Parts Delivered Quickly) service gives customers access to more than 100,000

Computer workshop offered

The USM Small Business Development Center is offering the computer workshop "Linux For Beginners" Saturday, June 8, from 10 a.m. until 6 p.m. The class will be conducted at the USM Small Business Development Center Computer Resource Center, 136 Beach Park Place, Long Beach. Lunch will be served.

Linux is a server operating system and is a cost-effective alternative to Windows 2000 Server. This "hands-on" computer workshop will cover: Linux Network Setup, User Administration, Mail Administration, Database Administration, and Client Connectivity.

The fee is \$275 per person and must be paid in advance due to limited seating. To prepay, mail check made payable to USM SBDC to USM Small Business Development Center, 136 Beach Park Place, Long Beach, MS 39560.

For more information, contact the USM Small Business Development Center at 228-865-4578.

Credit union receives award

The Credit Union National Association (CUNA) awarded Keesler Federal Credit Union and Sharon Seanor, vice president of marketing, a national Diamond Award at the 2002 CUNA Marketing Council Conference held in Washington, D.C.

The credit union received the only Diamond Award given in the category of audio/visual for credit unions with assets of \$500 million or greater.

The winning entry was the video presentation "Envision," which debuted at Keesler Federal's 2001 annual membership meet-

ings within 24 hours.

For commercial customers, the company offers special Hot Shot delivery of parts in nearly 1,200 stores. In addition, Advance offers free electrical testing and battery installation to its customers.

"Advance Auto Parts' neighborhood stores are community focused," Wilks added. "Every store serves as a community recycling center by accepting and recycling used motor oil and auto batteries. Stores also offer a wide range of support to local charities and schools."

"In communities with a Hispanic population, Advance devotes significant resources to communicating with Hispanic customers," Wilks added.

"Bilingual signs in stores, our national Hispanic spokesperson, and Hispanic-oriented spots with Spanish subtitles in the Advance Auto Parts in-store television network all help us communicate with our Hispanic customers."

Founded in 1932, Advance Auto Parts is the nation's second largest retailer of auto parts and accessories. The company currently operates more than 2,400 stores in 38 states, primarily located in the eastern, mid-western and southeastern regions of the United States, and in Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands.

Headquartered in Roanoke, Va., Advance Auto Parts, Inc. is a publicly traded company. Its common stock trades on the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE) under the symbol "AAP."

Additional information about the company, employment opportunities and services, as well as an on-line store can be found on the company Web site at www.advanceautoparts.com



FINANCIAL FOCUS

Submitted by Craig Foster
Edward Jones Co.

'Buy and hold' beats market timing

"Buy low and sell high" may sound like an exciting way to invest. Just imagine it: You get in on a stock when its price is way down, you stay with it until it peaks, you sell your shares - and you make a big profit. There's just one problem with this picture: It's not realistic.

Why is that? Because nobody - not even the most astute market experts - can consistently predict when a market has peaked" or when it has reached its bottom. That's why the buy low, sell high" investment strategy - also known as market timing" - is so difficult to practice successfully.

You can find a better way to invest than constantly looking for market peaks and valleys. This alternative method is not glamorous. It's not exciting. It doesn't even have a jazzy name.

This strategy is known as "buy and hold." If you're a buy-and-hold investor, you start out by picking high-quality stocks that meet your individual goals and your need for diversification. Then, you simply leave these stocks alone - for years.

You pay no attention to short-term price fluctuations. You pay no attention to market trends or "fads." You just stick with your stocks.

Of course, "buy and hold" doesn't mean "buy and forget." It's important to periodically review your stock

holdings to determine if they still meet your changing investment needs. You'll also need to ascertain whether a stock's fundamentals have changed.

Perhaps a new management team is taking the company in a direction you don't like. Or maybe the company belongs to an industry that is beginning to fade.

In any case, you'll want to stay up-to-date on the stocks that you own, but you should make a change only if you have a long-term reason for doing so.

Want proof that "buy and hold" is more effective than market timing? According to an in-depth study by 1990 Nobel Prize-winning economist William F. Sharpe, a market timer would have to be right at least 82 percent of the time to do as well as an investor who simply bought and held stocks.

In another study, Kenneth Fisher, author of The Wall Street Waltz, estimates that an investor with an initial stake of \$25,000 and the ability to perfectly time the market would earn a place on the Forbes list of "400 Richest Americans" after 21 years. The absence of such stock traders on the Forbes list is one proof that market timing can't be perfected.

Even if you're an active investor, do you really want to spend all that time and effort trying to figure out which way the market is going?

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Bank funds highly rated

Lipper, a global leader in mutual fund information and analysis, has ranked three Hancock Horizon Funds - a fund complex founded and managed by the Gulf South's own Hancock Bank - among the top 20 equity funds for year-to-date performance through April 30, 2002.

Lipper, a Reuters company tracking 80,000 funds worldwide, recently rated Hancock Bank's Hancock Horizon Value Fund and Hancock Horizon Growth Fund seventh and 18th, respectively, among hundreds of funds in each appropriate Lipper investment category.

With current fund complex assets over \$350 million, Hancock Horizon Funds is one of only three fund families locally managed in Mississippi and

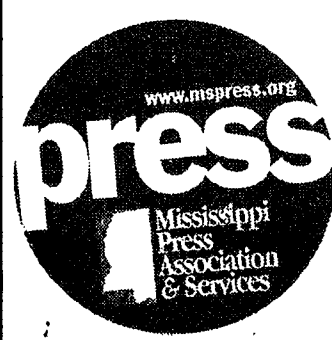
Louisiana with more than \$50 million in managed assets.

Initially established as Hancock's own proprietary mutual fund complex in May 2000, the Hancock Horizon Funds opened to the public in late 2001. In addition to the capital appreciation oriented Hancock Horizon Value Fund, Growth Fund, and regionally focused Burkenroad Fund, the Hancock Horizon family also comprises the Standard and Poor's AAAM rated Hancock Horizon Treasury Securities Money Market Fund, and Hancock Horizon Strategic Income Bond Fund.

Minimum investment in the funds complex is \$1,000.

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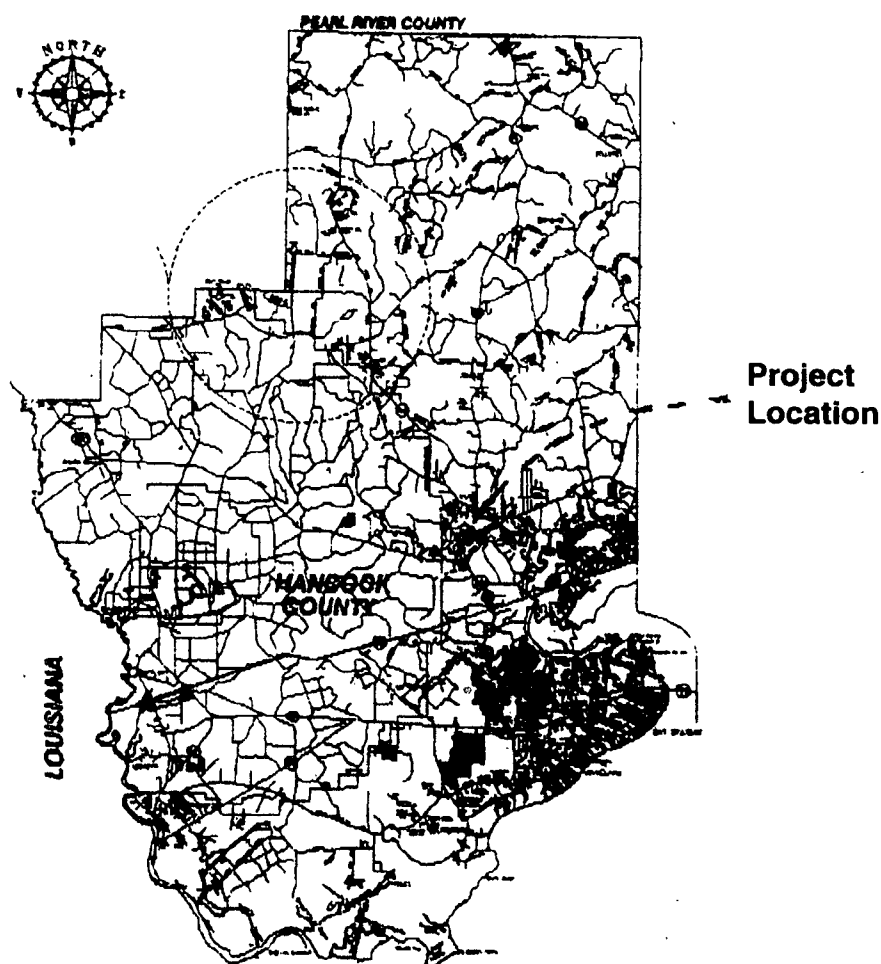
Notice of Availability of Environmental Assessment

The USDA, Rural Utilities Service has received an application for financial assistance from Kiln Water and Fire Protection District. As required by the National Environmental Policy Act, the Rural Utilities Service has prepared an Environmental Assessment that evaluated the potential environmental effects & consequences of the proposed project. This notice announces the availability of the Environmental Assessment for public review and comment.

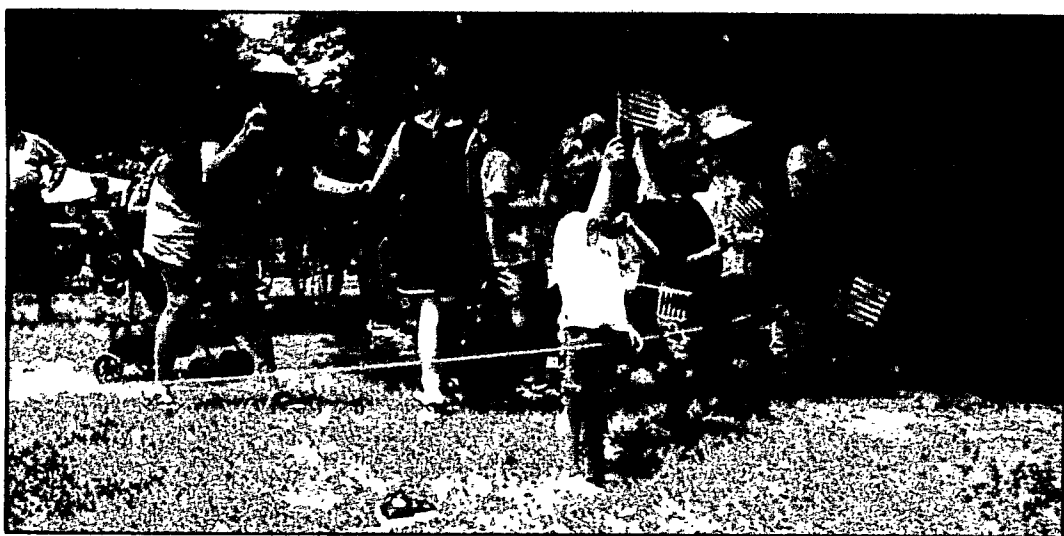
The proposed project consists of providing a central sewer system to 811 households located within the Kiln Water and Fire Protection District. Alternatives to the proposed project: Without the proposed project, existing homes in the District's service area would continue to rely upon individual septic systems. Many of these systems are inadequate and outdated. The construction of a central sewerage system will remove an environmental and potential health hazard.

Copies of the Environmental Assessment are available for review at the Rural Development Area office located at 132 Mayfair Road, Hattiesburg, Mississippi. For further information contact Robert W. Windham, Rural Development Specialist at 601-261-3293. Any person interested in commenting on this proposed project should submit comments to the address above by June 22, 2002.

A general location map of the proposal is shown below:



Diamondhead celebrates Memorial weekend



Children share the spirit as they march, sing, and wave the American flag.

Col. C.H. Ingraham, Jr., USMC Ret., coordinator of the memorial service, stands in front of the New Orleans Navy band as he greets attendees. Guest speaker was Captain Brian R. Kelm, CEC, USN, CO Naval Construction Battalion Ctr. Gulfport.



BY PAT MORGAN

Diamondhead residents gathered under the oaks to honor those who gave their lives for our country and to give thanks for those who continue to keep us free.

Captain Brian R. Kelm, CEC, USN, was guest speaker.

Captain Jack Evans, USN (Ret.) read names in memoriam.

Children marched, sang and waved American flags as the New Orleans Navy Band played a medley of five service songs, and all joined into sing America the Beautiful.

Colors were posted by Diamondhead Scout Troop #20.

This second annual event was coordinated by Diamondhead resident Col. C.H. Ingraham, Jr., USMC Ret.

Seglund selected as D'head Citizen of the Year

BY PAT MORGAN

Each year, a Diamondhead citizen is chosen for his or her outstanding contributions to the community and beyond.

Seglund has actively served for more than 26 years. In Diamondhead, she held positions with the Volunteer Fire Department Auxiliary, Boaters Association, Garden Club, Women's Club, Children's Little Theater, Performing Arts Society, and was the first DCA Neighborhood Watch chairman.

She is a member of the Business and Professional Association. Retired Officers Wives Club, Newcomers, Krewe of Selene, and SPCA.

She was Queen of the Krewe of Diamondhead in 1980 and Krewe of

Kamehameha in 1993.

She co-chaired the Hancock County United Way drive for two years, co-chaired the Hancock County American Cancer Society drive for four years, and was treasurer of the Naval Oceanography Wives Club for 15 years.

She is a member of the Hancock County Republican Women's Club, New Orleans Military Wives Club, and Gulfport Naval Officers Wives Club.

Seglund was president of the Hancock Medical Center Foundation Board 2000-01, serves on the Board of Hancock Kids Voting, Lynn Meadows Discovery Center, Gulf Coast Symphony, and Hancock County Christmas in April.



Pictured is Diamondhead Community Association Citizen of the Year, Lee Seglund, as she prepares to ride in Diamondhead's second annual Memorial weekend parade.

St. Stanislaus names valedictorian, salutatorian, awards

Sherwin Leung has been named valedictorian. Brian Landry has been named salutatorian, and Bobby Morell has been named the recipient of the Academic Excellence Award for the 2002 graduating class of St. Stanislaus College, according to Brother Ronald Hingle, S.C., principal.

Presently in his sixth year at St. Stanislaus, Valedictorian Sherwin Leung, son of Mr. and Mrs. Pun Hing Leung of Long Beach, has earned President's or Alpha Honor Roll throughout his high school career.

Leung is the vice-president of the Key Club. He is a member of the National Honor Society, Yearbook staff, Quiz Bowl Team, and the Literary Magazine. He plans to attend Georgia Tech.

Presently in his sixth year at St. Stanislaus, Salutatorian Brian Landry, son of Mr. and Mrs. Stephen W. Landry, Sr. of Waveland, has earned President's or Alpha Honor Roll throughout his high school career.

He is a student minister and a member of the National Honor Society and the Student Council. He plans to attend the University of Southern Mississippi.

Presently in his third year at St. Stanislaus, Academic Excellence Award recipient Bobby Morell, son of Mr. and Mrs. Aldo Morell has earned President's Honor Roll throughout his high school career and is a National Merit Finalist.

He is a member of the National Honor Society, Math and Science Team, and Quiz Bowl Team. He

plans to attend California Institute of Technology.

Class of 2002

Brent Acker, Danny Alario, Cherubin Alcala,

Ojay Amalu, Ray Arizi, Balla Ba, Christian Baehr,

Rodolfo Balaguer, Collins Baran, David Beckner, Sean Benoit, Blake Bilbo,

Kenneth Braun, Ty Breaux, Bryce Breland, Brennan Brooks, Brian Butler

Allan Butler, Taylor Butterworth, Grey

Caldarera, Sean Clark, Michael Cobb, Drew

Cranford, Nick Dudek, Preston Ellis, Clayton

Ferrara

Keith Fleniken, Billy

Flowers, Ross Ford, Curry

Gambel, Austin Gbesemete,

Jarrod Gilmore, Justin Guidry, Grey Hammett

Jeffrey Hansell, Keith

Herndon, Matthew Heyer,

Brandon Jung, Stephen

Kulikowski, Brian Landry,

B.J. Ledet, Michael Leonard

Sherwin Leung, Paco

Lopez, Justin Lowrey,

Fisher Maddox, Rik Marsh,

Robert Mayne, Jojo McGhee,

Brice Monu, Cory Moody,

Daniel Morales

Bobby Morell, John

Murphy, Eric Musial, Terry

Naidoo, Lorenzo Newman,

Sebastian Nievas, Adam

Pace, Chris Patterson,

Mark Pelleteri, John Penzo,

James Peterson, Randy

Piglia, Ben Puckett, Sean

Reddoch

Eddie Renz, Cheick

Sanankoua, Ike Schmitt,

Rodrigo Sevilla, Anthony

Shaw, Eric Stevens, Joey

Stokes, Jimmy Strickland,

Lance Stringfellow, Tom

Swayze, Brian Sy, Logan

Walker, Brian Webb, Aaron

White, Sheldon White, and

James Wilkinson.

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COMMUNITY

P91B

**Defending
(and airing)
your turf is
important**

THE PACE FILES

BY STAN PACE

County Extension Agent

A couple of weeks ago I discussed the benefits of "dethatching" a lawn to eliminate excess thatch and to provide more space for individual turf plants to grow and rejuvenate.

Another cultivation practice that promotes healthy turf is "aerification." The ideal soil environment for good turf growth is one that is composed of 50 percent solid matter (organic matter and mineral matter), 25 percent air, and 25 percent water.

Reality is that we seldom maintain such a uniform ratio due to soil compaction from foot traffic, mowing equipment, etc. that reduces the pore space for air and water.

When compaction occurs, the turf root system diminishes and becomes less efficient in taking in nutrients and moisture. Roots also need to breathe, and compacted soils restrict good air exchange within the soil.

A specialty tool called a core aerator is designed to physically remove cores of soil (similar to drilling small holes) to relieve soil compaction and improve macro porosity.

As each new core is punched, the previous core of soil that was removed is deposited on the turf canopy to be evenly distributed back across the turf helping to decompose thatch and level rough areas in the lawn.

A light layer of sand at this time can also be beneficial particularly on clay soil types, as the sand will fill the holes providing greater vertical movement of water and air in the soil.

Since aeration can be temporarily quite disruptive, it should be done at a time when the turf is actively growing to speed recovery of the turf and minimize any aesthetic distraction.

A seed pod came in the mail last week with horticulturists' favorite question: "What is this and can I eat it?" It looked like okra and it smelled like okra, but the seeds were flat, and there were only three carpels.

After much head scratching and page turning, we narrowed it down to an Iris. So much for the first half of the questions. The second half's answer is more important. Iris seed contain an irritant, which will cause gastroenteritis (irritated digestive system).

Speaking of okra, it should be serving its role as a water status indicator in most areas in Mississippi. Okra is a drought-avoiding plant that rapidly wilts when it doesn't have enough water to meet its needs.

Anytime you see okra with leaves drooping, it is time to irrigate everything. Other plants adapt to lack of water by slowing growth, dropping fruit, and eventually going dormant, but okra gives a very visible signal that water is needed.

Tomatoes across the state are fruiting now and require as much as two inches of water per week. Unless you were fortunate enough to

PACE-PAGE 3B

A Military Salute



Members of Bay St. Louis American Legion Post 139 salute fallen comrades at Monday's ceremony in St. Mary's Cemetery where the post's namesake, Clement R. Bontemps, is buried.

Memorial Day was a day for ceremony at area American Legion Halls.

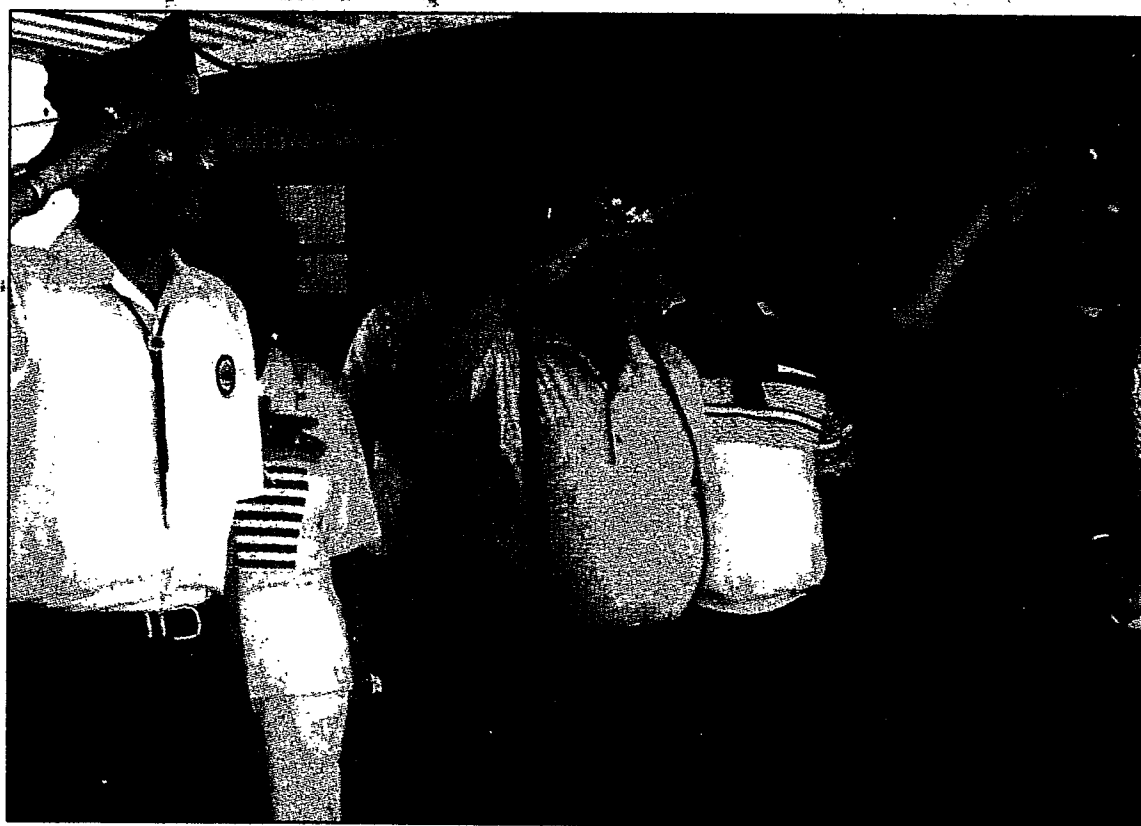
Bourgeois-Stieffel-Ray Post 77 in Waveland held a memorial service at the post honoring the dead, missing in action, prisoners of war and veterans of all wars. The service was officiated by Post Commander Leonard Smith. A wreath was placed in front of the monument honoring the post's namesakes, who gave their lives in World War II. After the ceremony refreshments were served in the hall.

Clement R. Bontemps Post 139 in Bay St. Louis held a memorial service at the grave site of its namesake, located in St. Mary's Cemetery in Bay St. Louis. Rounds were fired in honor of Bontemps, who died in World War I. A ceremony at the post's memorial honored all veterans.

Echo-staff photos by Bennie Shallbetter



Billy Adams and Johnny Longo bow their heads in prayer at Post 77's memorial ceremony.



Members of Waveland's American Legion Post 77 salute fallen comrades during the hall's Memorial Day Ceremony on Monday. Post 77 is named for three World War II veterans Bourgeois, Steiffel and Ray.

1962: Test Facility land owners want more money

TEN YEARS AGO

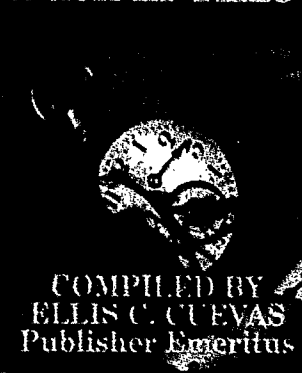
May 24, 1992 - Building official/inspector Keith Mitchell reported to the Waveland Board of Aldermen Wednesday the vacant city civic center is structurally repairable.

Mitchell said the present wiring and plumbing is substandard, recommending the city remove and replace all wiring, panels, sub-panels, and fixtures in the building.

A surprise reception was held Friday to honor Eve McDonald, 20-year director of Hancock County Senior Citizens Programs.

McDonald, received a bouquet of flowers from Susan Stevens, president of the Human Resources

Back in Time



Board, and Laura Mederos, executive director of the Human Resources Agency. McDonald received numerous awards on behalf of her work.

The Hancock County Food Pantry celebrated six years on May 19, serving

some 17,928 needy people. The Food Pantry is an agency of the United Way of Hancock County and is staffed by volunteers from the community's churches.

Current officers are Aileen Sauzer, president; Wilma McMahon, vice-president/secretary; Evelyn Johnson, secretary; Teen DeRocha, Bobby Boudin, Merlin Cripple, Ina Piazza, Father Nick Johnson, and Father William Kelly directors.

TWENTY YEARS AGO

May 23, 1982 - Groundbreaking for a \$3 million Bay St. Louis Shopping Center is planned for Thursday morning. City officials, contractors and

businessmen will gather at the corner of US-90 and Dunbar Avenue to officially begin construction of the L-shaped shopping center.

Gary Gilmore of Bay St. Louis and G-6 Ranch Inc. developers of MarkeTown, Friday said contracts have been signed with Warehouse Foods, Eckerd Drugs, and Ward Hamburgers to locate in the 100,000-square-foot center. Gilmore reported Warehouse Foods is owned by Jitney Jungle which will be building a modern prototype store in MarkeTown covering about 31,000-square-foot.

Perry Gibson, left, (photo), receives a lifetime membership to the

Hancock County Chamber of Commerce and Kodak Disc 6,000 camera from L.J. Breaux, president of the Hancock County Chamber of Commerce during retirement party given by Mississippi Power Company in Gulfport for his 42 years of service.

Gibson, twice president of the Hancock County Chamber of Commerce has been active in civic, church and community affairs in Hancock County since taking over Mississippi Power Company's Bay St. Louis office as manager in 1968.

FORTY YEARS AGO

May 31, 1962 - More

TIME-PAGE 3B

Stanislaus names Character Award recipients for June

SPECIAL TO THE ECHO
St. Stanislaus College named six Character Award Recipients for June, according to Brother Ronald Hingle, SC, principal, including the following students:

Senior Brian Butler, son of Mrs. Ezell Butler of Bay Saint Louis; junior Joshua Washington, son of Mr. and Mrs. Kevin Washington, Sr. of Diamondhead; sophomore Chase Treadway, son of Colonel and Mrs. Charles Treadway of Alamogordo, N. M.; freshman Brennan Thomas, son of Mr. and Mrs. Curtis Thomas, Jr. of Bay Saint Louis; eighth grader Ross Hotard, son of Ms. Eydie Pertuit of Raceland, La.; and seventh grader Andre Romain, son of Mr. and Mrs. Elliot



Recipients of the June Character Award are, standing, Junior Joshua Washington, sophomore Chase Treadway, and senior Brian Butler. Seated are eighth grader Ross Hotard and seventh grader Andre Romain. Not pictured is freshman Brennan Thomas.

Romain, Jr. of Bay Saint Louis.

The SSC Character Award for the Month is a recognition program to

acknowledge and honor students who demonstrate positive character traits in an outstanding and consistent manner.

St. Stanislaus to hold 148th commencement Saturday

SPECIAL TO THE ECHO
Commencement exercises for the 2002 graduating class of St. Stanislaus College in Bay St. Louis will take place Saturday, June 1 at 11 a.m. in Our Lady of the Gulf Catholic Church.

Brother Ronald Talbot, SC, president of St. Stanislaus and Brother Ronald Hingle, SC, principal, will confer the diplomas upon the graduating class.

Following the conferring of diplomas, Brother Ronald Talbot, SC and Brother Ronald Hingle, SC will also present the graduation awards.

Included in these awards are the "Character Cup," given to an outstanding graduating day student and also to an outstanding graduating resident student; the "St. Stanislaus Alumni Association Award," given to a senior who has shown special concern for his fellow man; and the "President's Award," the highest award given to a graduate of St. Stanislaus.

Candidates for diplomas for the 2002 graduating class include Brent Acker, Danny Alario, Cherubin

Alcalen, Ojay Amalu, Ray Ariza, Balla Ba, Christian Baehr, Rodolfo Balaguer, Collins Baran, David Beckner, Sean Benoit, Blake Bilbo, Kenneth Braun, Ty Breaux, Bryce Breland, Brennan Brooks, Brian Butler, Allan Butler, Taylor Butterworth, Grey Calderera, Sean Clark, Michael Cobb, Drew Cranford, Nick Dudek, and Preston Ellis.

Also in the graduating class are Clayton Ferrara, Keith Fleniken, Billy Flowers, Ross Ford, Curry Gambel, Austin Gbesemete, Jarrod Gilmore, Justin Guidry, Grey Hammett, Jeffrey Hansell, Keith Herndon, Matthew Heyer, Brandon Jung, Stephen Kulikowski, Brian Landry, B.J. Ledet, Michael Leonard, Sherwin Leung, Paco Lopez, Justin Lowrey, Fisher Maddox, Rik Marsh, Robert Mayne, JoJo McGhee, and Brice Monu.

Additional graduates are Cory Moody, Daniel Morales, Bobby Morell John Murphy, Eric Musial, Terry Naidoo, Lorenzo Newman, Sebastian Nieves, Adam Pace, Chris Patterson,

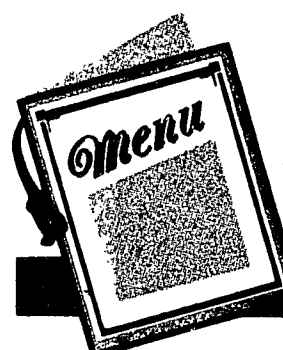
Mark Pelleteri

John Penzo, James Peterson, Randy Piglia, Ben Puckett, Sean Reddoch, Eddie Renz, Cheick Sanankoua, Ike Schmitt, Rodrigo Sevilla, Anthony Shaw, Eric Stevens, Joey Stokes, Jimmy Strickland, Lance Stringfellow, Tom Swayze, Brian Sy, Logan Walker, Brian Webb, Aaron White, Sheldon White, and James Wilkinson.

St. Stanislaus a Catholic residency and day school for young men in grades 6-12.

The school fosters character formation and integrates faith development with a curriculum which is primarily college preparatory.

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It's Time To Dine Out!

Spotlight on Dining



The River Dock

D Day, The Manhattan Project, and The River Dock Restaurant. The three best kept secrets of modern history. The first two only changed the tide of war, the third will change your dining habits as long as you're anywhere near Hancock County Mississippi.

The River Dock is a charming and friendly family owned restaurant on the banks of the Jourdan River at Highway 603 in Kiln. Opening every day at 11:00 AM (including holidays). The River Dock features an eight page dinner menu, a full service bar, a great view of the activities on the river, a boat dock, and a sandy beach for summer picnics. Nine lunch specials are featured every weekday on sale at just \$3.95, and dinner ranges from a very modest \$7.95 to the mid teens.

The most difficult thing about dining at the River Dock is making up your mind from the choices offered from their extensive menu which is always augmented by a generous VERY special board which begins with All You Can Eat Fried Catfish as low as \$6.95 and All You Can Eat Fried Shrimp as low as \$8.50 and continues with at least two or three more delights. The regular menu covers the gambit of delicious appetizers, Italian dishes,

local seafood, steaks, salads, sandwiches, and even pizza. We got a peek of the Muffalatta while we were there and it has to be one of the great ones available anywhere. Here's a hint, just order a quarter of a muffalatta; it's a full meal in itself.

After a couple of sips of our Berringer White Zinfandel, offered at an extremely reasonable \$15.95, the wife and I settled into a plate of outrageous fried crab claws at a modest \$5.95 and the best mozzarella and Swiss cheese sticks I ever had at just \$4.25. For our main course the wife ordered a stuffed soft shell crab over a bed of seafood fettuccini from the special board at \$16.95. I ordered a shrimp lovers combo from the regular menu priced at a modest \$16.95. These are about the most expensive dinners the River Dock offers, and I was on the paper's nickel.

WARNING! Get hungry before ordering a shrimp lovers combo at the River Dock. You get Gumbo, shrimp salad, fried shrimp, stuffed shrimp, shrimp au gratin, shrimp jambalaya. You get a lot of shrimp. Great shrimp. You don't want to leave any.



The stuffed soft shell crab melted in the wife's mouth and complemented the rich seafood sauce and fettuccini to a tee. It was so good she couldn't talk for fifteen minutes while she ate. This in itself is reason to take her back.

During dinner we realized we should have brought the rug-rat because kids 8 & under eat free from a special kid's menu. The bill, served with complementary dinner mints, came to under sixty dollars including the wine. I paid it and left before they found that they made a mistake. I know it had to be more than that.

It's nights like that that make me love my job.

Restaurant Owners:
If you would like your restaurant reviewed by The Sea Coast Echo, please call Cecilia or Suzette at 467-5474.

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Sun 7 - 11 for Breakfast
Sun 11 - 2 Brunch
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Saturday • 9pm - 12pm - W.O. Lee
Sunday • 1:00pm - Glenn Fontenot

ALL YOU CAN EAT
Shrimp \$8.50 Mon-Thurs
Fri, Sat & Sun \$9.95
Catfish \$6.95 Mon-Thurs
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KIDS 8 & Under eat FREE with paying adult
Available from Kid's Menu - Dine-In Only Available with any full price entrée or salad.

The River Dock Restaurant
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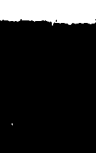
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Developing a family disaster plan

By Chris Floyd
American Red Cross

Have you thought about your hurricane preparedness plans for this year? The Hancock County Civil Defense is hosting its second annual Hurricane Fair on June 5, from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. at the Stennis International Airport at a hangar located at 7059 Road C.

The Hurricane Hunters will be a special guest to kick off the Hancock County Library System's Summer Reading Program.

The Hurricane Hunters consist of 10 Lockheed Martin WC-130 aircraft and crews. The Hurricane Hunters are a one-of-a-kind group, the only Department of Defense organization in the world still flying tropical storms and hurricanes.

They are part of the 403rd Wing Air Force Reserve based at Keesler Air Force Base. Families can and do cope with disaster by preparing in advance and working together as a team. Knowing what to do is your best protection and your responsibility.

The National Weather Service, the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the American Red Cross urge each and every family to develop a family disaster plan.

Here are the steps to follow to create and implement a family disaster plan:

- Gather information about hazards in your area by contacting your local chapter of the American Red Cross, your county emergency management or the National Weather Service.

Find out what types of disasters could occur in your area and how you should respond. Learn your community's warning signals and evacuation plans.

Also, find out about the disaster plans at your workplace, your children's school and other places where your family spends time.

- Meet with your family to create a plan. Discuss the information you have gathered and why it is important to prepare for disaster. Plan to share responsibilities and work together as a team.

- It is a good idea to pick two places to meet: right outside your home in case of a sudden emergency, like a fire, and outside your neighborhood in case you cannot return home. Everyone, including small children, should know your address and phone number.

- Ask an out-of-state friend to be your "family contact" for everyone to call if the family gets separated. After a disaster, it is often easier to call long distance.

- Have a plan for your pets - be aware that pets are not allowed in American Red Cross shelters. Other arrangements should be secured beforehand.

- Once you have created a family disaster plan, it is time to implement the plan so that it may be activated at any point in time. Post emergency telephone numbers by phones (fire, police, ambulance, etc.).

Teach your children how and when to call 911. Have your family learn basic safety measures, such as CPR and First Aid. Show each family member 1) how and

when to turn off water, gas and electricity at the main switches, and 2) how to use a fire extinguisher.

Conduct a home hazard hunt in which you inspect your home for items that can move, fall, break or cause a fire, and correct them. Stock emergency supplies and assemble a Disaster Supplies Kit (see below). Determine the best escape routes from your room and find the safe spots in your home for different types of disasters.

Disaster Supplies Kit
Your kit should include enough supplies to meet your needs for at least three days. Store these supplies in sturdy, easy to carry, water-resistant containers, such as backpacks or duffel bags. It is a good idea to keep a smaller kit in the trunk of your car. Your disaster supplies kit should include:

- A three-day supply of water (one gallon per person per day) and food that will not spoil

- One change of clothing and footwear per person

- One blanket or sleeping bag per person

- A first aid kit, including prescription medicines

- Emergency tools, including a battery-powered radio, flashlight and plenty of extra batteries

- An extra set of car keys

- Cash

- Special items for infant, elderly or disabled family members

- An extra pair of glasses


Practice and maintain your plan. Ask questions to make sure your family remembers meeting places, phone numbers and safety rules. Conduct drills.

You want to replace stored water every three months and stored food every six months. Test and recharge your fire extinguisher according to manu-

facturer's instructions.

Smoke alarms should be checked monthly and batteries changed at least once a year.

Make plans for child care in case parents cannot get home - that way, all of the children in your neighborhood can be safe. Representatives from Hancock County Civil Defense, American Red Cross and the Mississippi Emergency Management Agency will be available to answer questions and help you prepare a family disaster plan. For additional information, contact the Office of Civil Defense Director Lynette Carbon at 467-9226, or the American Red Cross at 896-4511, or visit the Federal Emergency Management Agency web site at www.fema.gov/pte/prep2.htm.



DO YOU KNOW...

The Bible says as believers "we are more than conquerors" (Romans 8:37)?

Are you winning in life or has your life been "the pits"? It doesn't have to be that way.

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Age Divisions		"PERSONALITY PLUS" PAGENT ENTRY FORM	
Girls	(1) Birth to 11 months (2) 1 year (3) 2 years (4) 3-4 years (5) 5-6 years (6) 7-8 years (7) 9-11 years (8) 12-14 years (9) 15-17 years	Name: _____	Mother's Name: _____
Boys	(1) Birth to 11 months (2) 1 year (3) 2 years (4) 3-4 years (5) 5-6 years	Address: _____	DOB: _____
		Phone Number: _____	Color of Eyes: _____ Color of Hair: _____
		Age: _____	Hobbies: _____
<p>Bring or mail your entry to: Our Lady of the Gulf Church Rectory 228 South Beach Blvd., Bay St. Louis, MS 39520 ATTENTION: Pagent Committee</p>			

Time

Continued from Page 1B

than 200 residents of NASA test site area complained Monday morning to the board of supervisors that they are not receiving just remuneration for their property and named a seven-member committee to work in their behalf.

The mass meeting elected Dr. James Ferguson of Flatop as president of the Mississippi Test Facility Land Owners Committee.

Named to serve with him were Asa McQueen, Sylvester Moran, Oscar Gelpi, August Holden, Cody Isbell, and Charles Acker. Mrs. Isbell will be secretary and Cornelius J. Ladner agreed to serve as attorney.

FIFTY YEARS AGO

May 30, 1952 - Don't forget to join the crowd at the Knights of Columbus fish fry and street dance, for the benefit of the Back School tonight at 8 p.m. Back School Grounds. Vic Green and his Hillbilly band will be on hand to furnish the music.

SIXTY YEARS AGO

May 29, 1942 - Bay St. Louis can be regarded as a city of schools. The children of this city have every opportunity to receive an education. We have in this city a population of 4,500 people, three accredited high schools, Saint Stanislaus College, Saint Joseph's Academy and the Bay St. Louis High School. These three institutions will

graduate a total of ninety-five boys and girls this weekend.

ONE HUNDRED TEN YEARS AGO

May 29, 1892 - A long period has existed since the young folks of Bay St. Louis gave a basket and dancing picnic that equaled that given on Monday last at the Saucier Farm on the Jourdan River. At about 8:30 a.m. the merry picnickers, chaperoned by Mrs. M.J. Breath and Mrs. H. Moreau, left the residence of Mrs. Breath, where all assembled, and proceeded at once to the destination.

It is almost needless to say that we reached the Jourdan River banks safely and enjoyed ourselves.

At 1 o'clock the dinner horn was heard. A long table on the broad veranda of the grand old farm house was surrounded, and the crowd doing justice to the tempting and bountiful spread of fowl, meats, fish, salads, fruit and cakes in a boundless supply.

After perambulating and berry picking on the grounds of the farm, the double-hull boat, A.A. Ulman came up the river and tacked for the shell banks of the picnic grounds.

The crowd on shore was soon on board and enjoyed a delightful sail. Dancing was soon resumed until 6 o'clock, and all returned to the Breath home for a ball until midnight.

Pace

Continued from Page 1B

get one of those scattered showers, they need irrigation. Water deficient tomato plants make blossom end rotted fruit.

Don't forget to call the

Master Gardener Hotline with any garden or lawn question that you may have. (1-866-Garden8 or 1-866-427-3368)

Questions About Fen-Phen/Redux?

Did you take the diet drugs Fen-Phen or Redux? You could have suffered permanent heart damage, even if you were told an earlier echocardiogram was "normal." It may not be too late to receive compensation for your injuries due to a new class action settlement. Call today for more information.

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IMPORTANT RECYCLING NOTICE:

COLLECTION DAYS ARE CHANGING TO EVERY OTHER WEEK.

BAY ST. LOUIS AND WAVELAND WILL START BI-WEEKLY RECYCLING THE WEEK OF JUNE 3RD THROUGH THE 7TH.

DIAMONDHEAD WILL START BI-WEEKLY RECYCLING THE WEEK OF JUNE 10TH THROUGH THE 14TH.

IF YOU ARE ALREADY RECYCLING:

Information packets will be placed in recycling bins the last two weeks in May. The packets include a calendar showing your recycling days through December. If you don't get a packet, call the number below.

IF YOU WANT TO START RECYCLING:

Call 487-9268 to receive a free recycling bin and a recycling information packet.

TIPS FOR REMEMBERING YOUR RECYCLING WEEK.

1. **Post the recycling calendar** in a convenient location.
2. **Recycle every two weeks** to maintain a regular schedule.
3. **Recycle even in bad weather.** If it is raining, cover your recyclables with a plastic bag and weight it down with a brick or rock. Don't miss your recycling day!

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Entertainment

Sinatra at Casino Magic in Bay St. Louis

SPECIAL TO THE ECHO

The Sinatra Legacy continues at Casino Magic Bay St. Louis when Frank Sinatra Jr. and his 36-piece orchestra comes to the Entertainment Complex performing "Sinatra Sings Sinatra," May 31 and June 1.

Concerts begin at 9 p.m. each night.

Tickets are \$19.95, \$24.95, and \$29.95.

The concert, a lifetime in the making, features songs that Frank Sinatra included in over 40 years of performing, many of which Sinatra Jr. witnessed first hand.

In song and style Frank Sinatra, Jr. pays homage to his father, the singer, and the music that defines the Sinatra legend.

The show includes such Sinatra classics as "I've Got You Under My Skin," "One For My Baby," "New York, New York," "Luck Be A Lady," and "Strangers In The Night."

Frank Sinatra Jr. was born in New Jersey, raised in California and educated in the showrooms of Las Vegas as well as bandstands all over the world.

After many years touring with his, Big Band and



Frank Sinatra Jr. will perform at Casino Magic Bay St. Louis this Friday and Saturday.

working as his father's musical director, Frank, Jr. recorded "As I Remember It" (Angel Records), a CD, released in 1996.

It celebrated not only the

singer but the composers, arrangers and musicians who helped to define the man and his music. Throughout the late 1990's, Sinatra Jr. and his orches-

tra successfully toured the country performing both "As I Remember It" and a multi-city tour of Gershwin music.

Now, Sinatra Jr. returns to the stage to sing his father's classics and personal favorites from years gone by. Tickets are available at the Casino Magic Box Office, by calling 1-800-5-MAGIC-5, or at any Ticketmaster location.

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Magic offers 'Summer of Stars 2002'

SPECIAL TO THE ECHO

If you like to be entertained, look no further the Summer of Stars concert series kicking off this month at Casino Magic Bay St. Louis.

The summer is sizzling with weekly concerts with such blockbuster performances by Randy Travis, Ray Charles, and the Village People to fill your hot summer nights.

June continues the series with the Oak Ridge Boys bringing their brand of country harmony to the stage Friday June 7 at 9

p.m. Tickets start at \$14.95.

Debbie Reynolds, the star of the silver screen, musicals and song will be on hand at Casino Magic Bay St. Louis' entertainment complex on Friday, June 14. Tickets start at \$14.95.

Next the smooth style of Ray Charles will light up the entertainment complex on Thursday, June 20 at 9 p.m. Tickets for Charles will start at \$29.95.

The month will finish with legendary rock and roller Jerry Lee Lewis Friday, June 28 at 9 p.m.

Lewis tickets start at \$19.95.

If you're thinking of seeing a hot act at Casino Magic Bay St. Louis, you can also book a room at the Mississippi coast's newest casino resort hotel, Bay Tower. Casino Magic's new 14-story luxury hotel opens May 27 and is taking reservations now by calling 1-800-5-MAGIC-5.

Tickets are available for all the concerts at the Casino Magic Box Office, by calling 1-800-5-MAGIC-5 or at any Ticketmaster location.

B-W Yacht Club sailing camps

SPECIAL TO THE ECHO

The Bay-Waveland Yacht Club is promoting sailing on the Gulf Coast by offering a sailing camp which is available to non-members as well as members. The club boats are used in the sailing camp, so it is not necessary to own a boat to attend the camp.

The BWYC Sailing Camp 2002 will consist of four two-week sessions which will meet from 9 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. four days each week. Tuesday through Friday.

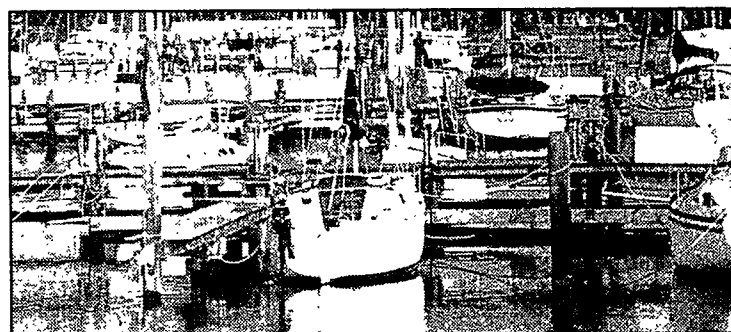
The four sessions are June 4 through 14, June 8 through 28, July 1 (no camp on the Fourth of July) through 12, and July 16 through 26.

A "Camp Regatta," in which all campers are invited to participate at no charge, is planned for July 30 and 31, with August 1 reserved as a "rain day."

Awards for the campers and for the "Camp Regatta" participants will be presented at a sailing camp banquet in the evening of August 1.

All campers and their parents and relatives are invited to the banquet. There will be a nominal charge per person for the banquet. Reservations will be required.

This year, the instructors and staff will teach on a "learn rotation" plan to insure that all campers will benefit from the knowledge and instruction of each staff



The Bay-Waveland Yacht Club is offering Sailing Camp 2002 with four different sessions in June and July.

member.

U.S. Sail guidelines will be the basis used in teaching the course for all levels, beginner through advanced student experience.

The ratio of staff members to campers will be limited to one staff member to five campers. The one to five ratio is a "cutoff" ratio and will not be exceeded. Cost of the camp is \$230 per camper per session for non-

members. Openings remain in all four sessions as of mid-May. Register now, while there is still space available.

Call BWYC at 228.467.4592 for additional information.

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SPORTS

PRCC Wildcats wrap up record season

SPECIAL TO THE ECHO

Pearl River Community College ended its record-setting 2002 baseball season Monday with a heart-breaking 13-3 loss to Iowa Central in the NJCAA Division II World Series in USA Stadium.

The Wildcats finished the year at 42-13 their best record in history while winning their first-ever Region XIII and Central District "Super Regionals" championships to reach the coveted World Series.

PRCC quickly fell into the losers bracket when it opened play in the double-elimination event with a hard-fought 3-2 loss Northern Oklahoma-Enid on Saturday, but bounced back with an impressive 9-1 victory on Sunday to eliminate Brookdale (N.J.).

First-year Wildcat head coach Jay Artigues' disappointment was evident following the ICC loss that ended his team's season, but he also reflected on the Wildcats' accomplishments this past season.

"It's a tough way to end a season, but we accomplished a lot this year and I'm very proud of our guys," Artigues said. "Our goal from the outset of the season was to win the Regionals, the Super Regionals, and get to the World Series."

"We accomplished that goal, but the chips didn't fall like we'd hoped. You've got to play consistently when a national championship is on the line. We didn't do that out there tonight."

Iowa Central went up 2-0 in the bottom of the second when Ron Bethke doubled off Wildcat starter Jeff Middleton of Mobile, then

scored off Andy Kyle's two-out triple. Kyle scored off Dan Stuart's single.

Things came unglued for Pearl River in the bottom of the third, as the Tritons bashed the Wildcats for six runs. Joe Anthonson led off with a walk, then ICC pitcher Justin Meyer singled to set the stage for Pete Wiedewitsch's RBI-double. Heath Woods sacrificed Meyer's pinch runner, Brad Thomas, home to make it 4-0.

Middleton exited the game for reliever Josh O'Flynn of Petal after walking Bethke and giving up a single to Jared Johnson. O'Flynn hit the first batter he faced to load the bases, then Stuart followed with an inside-the-park grand slam home run to balloon the Tritons' advantage to 8-0. O'Flynn, who faced only seven batters in the game, struck out Johnny Lukehart for the third out.

PRCC managed only a one-out single by Eric Adkins of Purvis in the top of the fourth, but ICC rallied for five more runs in the bottom of the frame and eventually won via the 10-run rule.

In the bottom of the fourth, Anthonson doubled, then a one-out error by the Wildcats set the stage for Woods' RBI single. Rhett Shafette relieved O'Flynn at that point and the Picayune lefthander walked Bethke to load the bases. Johnson followed with a three-run double to make it 12-0.

LSU signee Collin Smith of Baton Rouge relieved Shafette and immediately gave up an RBI-double to Kyle for the Tritons last run, of the game.

Pearl River fought back with three runs in the top of

the fifth when Josh Parker of Picayune led off with a walk, then Jason Santiago of St. Stanislaus singled. Justin Laxon of Clinton walked to load the bases, setting the stage for an RBI-single by Jake Smith of Picayune High for the Wildcats' first run. An RBI-single by Justin Gros of Oak Grove and a Triton error resulted in PRCC's final two runs.

"It's just one of those things that happen in baseball," Artigues said. "You can't put your finger on what went wrong or place the blame on any one player or players. We just weren't ready to play mentally."

"But we had an outstanding season and Pearl River fans should be proud. It was a historical year and I'm proud to have been a part of it."

Meyer (7-2) was the winning pitcher in going the five-inning distance. He gave up three earned runs off five hits, while striking out one and walking one.

Middleton (7-2) was the loser in his two-and-two-thirds innings, striking out one and walking two. O'Flynn, Shafette, and Smith also pitched. Smith struck out one.

PRCC finished with five hits, led by Brett Harris of Picayune High with a double. Adkins, Santiago, Jake Smith, and Jabrell Cook of Hattiesburg High all singled.

Pearl River 9-Brookdale CC 1

Ole Miss signee Chris Thompson pitched what was arguably his best game of his two-year Wildcat career with a three-hit, 10-strikeout, one-walk performance that eliminated Brookdale (N.J.) on Sunday.

Pearl River got back on a winning track with a 9-1 victory in only six-and-one-half innings via the eight-run rule.

Thompson, a sophomore righthander from Irvington, Ala., showed his domination early, striking out four of the first six BCC batters he faced.

The Wildcat offense rose to the occasion in the bottom of the second with four runs when clean up man Middleton led off with a single, then Brett Harris reached via an error. Back-to-back fielder's choices loaded the bases for PRCC, then Cook's walk pushed the Wildcats' first run home. A wild pitch made it 2-0, then Nate Murray of Bogalusa singled in another run. Jake Smith's one-out squeeze bunt made it 4-0 to end the scoring in the second.

NOE Jets 3-PRCC 2

Pearl River's debut in its first-ever World Series ended with a hard-fought 3-2 loss to Northern Oklahoma College-Enid on Saturday to end the opening day's action.

The battle was a cliffhanger with a combined total of 20 base runners left stranded during the nine-inning affair.

The victorious Jets left 11 runners on base, while the Wildcats left nine.

Eight teams from eight NJCAA districts comprise the annual World Series line up. Besides PRCC, NOC, and Brookdale; Frederick Community College from Frederick, Md.; Jefferson State CC from Birmingham, Ala.; Kellogg CC from Battle Creek, Mich.; and Parkland CC from Champaign, Ill., made up the 2002 field.

Pearl River to host June baseball camps

Pearl River Community College will host three baseball camps during June, says PRCC head coach Jay Artigues.

An Overall Skills Camp is set for June 3-6, followed by a Pitcher-Catcher Camp June 10-11, and a one-day Hitting Camp June 8.

The four-day Overall Skills Camp costs \$65 and covers all aspects of the game. Instruction will center around hitting, pitching,

defense, baserunning, and bunting. The camp will include games organized by age groups. Campers will receive a PRCC baseball tee-shirt. The two-day Pitcher-Catcher Camp costs \$50 and covers all aspects of pitching and catching. Instruction will center around fundamental drills, game preparation, fielding, program arm care, and developing a good mental approach to the game.

The one-day Hitting Camp costs \$30 and covers all aspects of hitting. Instruction will include live batting practice, drills, addressing problem areas, and developing a good mental approach at the plate.

All three camps will be held in Wildcat Stadium on PRCC's Poplarville campus and will be staffed by the Wildcat coaching staff. Campers should bring a bat, a glove, and a great desire

to become a better baseball player. Catchers should bring any equipment needed. Campers should wear athletic shorts or baseball pants, a tee-shirt, and athletic shoes (cleats okay).

For more information, telephone Artigues at (601)403-1326 (office) or (601)795-6027 (home). You may also long on to the Pearl River website at [www.prcc.cc.ms.us/sports/b](http://www.prcc.cc.ms.us/sports/baseball) aseball.

Bernard, Mellot and Wild take first ECO Triathlon titles

Rusty Bernard won the overall title in the inaugural Earth Events ECO Triathlon Sunday in Bay St. Louis completing the combination kayaking-biking-running course in just over an hour and 20 minutes - about four minutes ahead of second and third place finishers Scott Schilling and Mark Salvetti.

Donna Mellot of Pass Christian was the top overall female finisher with a time of 1:43:44.

Anne Koski and Shaun McKee finished second and third, respectively, among female racers.

In a battle of 11-year-olds, Shelby Wild of Waveland edged Nathan Kren by just two seconds to win the "menehune" or youth triathlon. Jesse Mitchell, also of Waveland, took third.

In the relay category, the team of Richard Savoie, Brad Bradford and James Plaisance were victorious by just six seconds over the team of Kim Reinike, Steve Martin and Richard Smith.

Of the solo competitors,

Salvetti had the best time in the kayak leg, completing the 2-mile course in 23:53, and Bernard was the fastest in the bike portion finishing in 33:06.

Jeb Barry, fourth in the overall competition, set the high mark in the run with a time of 20:29.

The ECO consisted of a 2-mile kayak, a 12-mile bike and 3.1 mile run along the beach in Bay St. Louis and Waveland.

The youth competition - for kids 12 and under - consisted of the half-mile kayak, 1-mile bike and half-mile run. Over 130 athletes from the Gulf region participated in the triathlon, which raised money for Earth Events, a non-profit organization based in Bay St. Louis that specializes in education young people about ecology, healthy living and the arts.

Complete race results are available at gulfcoastrunningclub.net.



Gulf Coast School of Baseball camp dates set

The fifth annual Gulf Coast School of Baseball will be held June 3-7 at the St. Stanislaus baseball diamond. The camp will run daily from 9 a.m. till noon. It is open to boys and girls ages 9-14. Registration will take place June 3 at 8 a.m., and the fee is \$60. The fee includes a camp shirt.

For information, call Will Seymour at 467-9057, ext. 534 or 466-0941.

All campers need to bring gloves and cleats.

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Auctions

COLUMBIA AUCTION COMPANY. Antiques and Decorative Arts 10% Buyers Premium Sunday June 2nd at 2:00pm View at 1:00pm Waveland, Ms. Waveland Holiday Inn, Hwy 90 & 603 Outstanding 3 pc Walnut bedroom suite w/poster bed, chest on chest & dresser w/mirror, Walnut Victorian center table w/white marble top, Chippendale Mahogany bookcase, Eastlake center table w/white marble top, excellent pair early Victorian balloon back side chairs, Mahogany music cabinet, Victorian Walnut marble top washstand, Empire Mahogany vanity w/round mirror, Serpentine Oak washstand, Mahogany six sided stand, Mahogany ladies slant front desk, original TWTV oil lamp, Empire Mahogany slant front desk, opal Hobnail brides basket, two Victorian organ stools, two Walnut Victorian parlor tables, several early HP Porcelain pieces, (German, Austrian, Limoges), excellent needlepoint Victorian footstool, early Walnut writing desk, early Oak display cabinet w/top & bottom dovetail construction, early pewter clawfoot coffee pot on stand, child's roll-top desk w/matching swivel chair, one-of-a-kind art deco floor lamp and other floor lamps, extra nice Painted Hoosier cabinet w/flower bin, pair cranberry tuster lamps w/cut glass prisms, Victorian marble insert gentleman's dresser, fine Mahogany "Piano Leg" sofa table large extremely ornate cut glass and brass & marble lamp w/silk shade, Mersman Mahogany Queen Anne game table, crystal & silver Cruet set, Mahogany kneehole desk w/rope twist banding, brass cupid lamp w/cut glass prisms, several fine old framed prints, Victorian Oak stool, Mahogany writing table, folding Oak sewing table dated 1865-, Fenton "Rosecrest" items, Mahogany gossip bench, Mahogany barley twist lamp stand, Enamelled emerald ware decanter set, Deco center table, superior set of brass inlaid Mahogany stack tables, brass double floor lamp, set of 4 Bentwood kitchen chairs, Deco vanity stool, Mahogany double slant writing desk, Mahogany one drawer stand, Deco vanity arm bench, decorated copper lined smoke stand, pair of piano lamps w/french art glass shades, late 1800's 7pc "Block & Panel" berry set, "The Best" Mahogany ladies dressing mirror, French opera glasses, copper horse weather vane, metal ceiling pieces, wood blanket chest, 2 Bentwood childrens chairs, 1954 Ringling Bros "Barnum & Bailey circus magazine w/3 autographs (Unus The Clown - John Ringling North & Dick Powell)...other...3 iron plant hangers, wood & ornamental iron bookcase (Shabby Chic), 1 Shabby

Chic mantel, metal bakers rack, occasional boxes, 3 metal wall pocket floral holder w/arrangement, marble & iron garden table, 4 metal garden chairs, marble & iron sofa table, large metal plant stand, 2 tile top garden tables, metal garden bench, 2 iron & glass coffee tables, 15 great clay flower pots, signed & number fish print, painted Porcelain sink, large wire bird cage, 3 iron bar stools round metal garden table w/4 chairs, 5.9x4.8 hand woven wool rug, Pine w/tille bakers cabinet w/pot hanger, metal hanging pot rack, in-laid humidor box, several pcs stained and leaded glass, much much more. We haven't had an auction in Waveland in a while, look forward to seeing you! Jennings Gilmore, MS Auctioneer. License #452. (601)736-2522, (601)731-5374.

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B & C LAND SERVICES. Dirt hauling, dozer, tractor, excavator work. Business 228-467-0426. Fax 228-467-9968 Cell 228-806-4499, Cell 228-493-7866.

56 Services Offered

Dumptruck & Tractor Service

All types dirt, grading, leveling, limestone driveways built and repaired.

466-5657 • Cell 760-5657

AA VINCENT'S DUMP TRUCK SERVICE Fill dirt, sand, top soil, gravel DIRT spread 467-9273, cell 332-1453

AAA TRASH HAULING AND grass cutting 467-1577 or 467-4266, anytime

ABC HOME SERVICES Plumbing, electrical, flooring, fencing, carpentry, roofs & decks, sheet rock And 70 more Mac 463-2320

Pro Movers "Safe & Courteous" Licensed and Insured Gill Thompson • 601-799-5127 Cell: 601-916-7194 • 1-866-306-6683

ALBERT'S GRASS CUTTING, TREE trimming and removal, trash hauling, weed eating & edging. 467-0049.

B & B DUMP TRUCK & TRAC SERVICE Gravel, fill dirt, top soil, Lots cleared, dozer work. 466-4320.

BRAD'S DUMP TRUCK SERVICE: Fill dirt, sand, gravel, top soil & limestone. 467-6763

BULKHEAD WORK, SITE WORK, DIRT hauling, and demolition. Call 255-4291 or pager 880-4711.

BULKHEAD'S, BOAT DOCK'S, BOAT launches, 30 years experience. 463-9451. Joe Bourgeois.

CARPET AND FLOORING INSTALLATIONS. Repairs, carpet restretching, professional results. 25 years experience. References Call me at home 463-0147. Cell 363-2399.

CUSTOM CONSTRUCTION: House Framing, Call Dave @ 586-1108 or Jim @ 255-2597 or 493-2138.

DALE'S DIRT SERVICE: TRACTOR work, top-soil, yard sand, clay gravel, fill dirt, limestone, gravel. Cell 228-697-0727 or 228-255-2656.

GULF COAST TRANSPORT SERVICES/providing transportation to and from all medical offices and facilities. \$40 one way. 466-3599.

MOVING MADE EASY! LOCAL. One way or out of state. Call me and let's make a deal Brian. 255-9274.

PREMIUM POWER WASH: PRESURE washing, commercial, residential homes, concrete drive thru's. Free estimates. 255-5704, cell 216-1298.

QUALITY PAINTING & FIBER-GLASS repair. All phases of fiberglass, repair, gelcoat, bottom coats, etc. for your boat. Free estimates. Call 466-9275.

R & W STUMP GRINDING. FREE estimates. 228-586-1801 or 228-216-1396

REASONABLE AND DEPENDABLE house cleaning, day or night, 493-2902.

SACKETT'S ELECTRICAL SERVICE: Licensed Bonded & Insured. Residential, Commercial, & Industrial 467-4955

THE BICYCLE REPAIR SHOP. 6010 E. Benton 467-7123. Day or Night.

WASH GRAVEL \$14.50/PER YARD: pea gravel \$10.50/per yard; limestone \$23.50/per yard; fill dirt \$4.25/per yard; topsoil \$10.00/per yard; fill sand \$5.00/per yard, etc. 493-3358 and 255-1106.

58 Lawn & Garden

A CALL TO CHARLIE'S LAWN & YARD service for free estimates Grass cutting, weed eating, trash hauling, etc Call anytime (228) 467-1577 or (228) 467-4266

CUT AND WEED EAT GRASS. make offer. 467-8370 or 324-1335

LAWN CARE, MOWING, EDGING, & blowing Reasonable rates Ask for Darell, 466-4660

LAWN CARE 20 YEARS EXPERIENCE Cut, weedeating, and driveways blown low prices. Others will be gone, I'll still be in business Call 467-4491 Leave message

RELIABLE LAWN SERVICE Yards cut, trimmed References and free estimates Call 467-2304

ROBERT'S LAWN SERVICE Professional service, reasonable rates 467-6962

SUMMERTIME LAWN CARE reliable, reasonable, local Mowing, weedeating, edging, blowing, ect. No job to big or small. 467-3642 / 493-1495

66 Child Care

CHILD CARE IN MY HOME. Mother of 3. Mon-Fri. Hot meals and snacks provided. \$65.00/week 466-4603 Laura.

CHILD CARE IN MY WELAND home, Mon-Fri. \$60.00 week Call 467-4949.

CHILD CARE, BSL. REASONABLE Rates, flexible hours, hot meals, snacks. Infants welcomed 463-0978

DIAMONDHEAD RESIDENT. Mother of 2 looking to care for children 4 & up for summer. Food supplied, daily activity, learning & recreation. \$65 week. 255-7955.

73 Help Wanted

BUSY SALON HAS IMMEDIATE Openings for hairdresser and Nail Tech. Walk in clientele. 467-1366.

EXPERIENCED LINE COOK, needed. Apply in person, Ricketts Bar & Grill, 207 Coleman Ave., Waveland.

FRAMING CARPENTERS NEEDED Experience a must. 1-601-749-0766. 1-228-324-4665.

HELP WANTED: EARN UP TO \$500 per week assembling products at home. No experience. INFO 1-985-646-1700 Dept. MS-290.

NEED CAREGIVER FOR 2YR OLD, child care experience required. Salary \$5.25-\$6.25 depending on experience. 7:30am-12:30pm, Mon-Fri. GED or diploma required. May lead to full time position, with excellent benefits. Call 467-8050 for interview.

NEEDING SOME GOOD CARPENTERS. 463-0831.

73 Help Wanted

NORTH SHORE TRAILER SALES. Pearl River, LA Taking applications for the following positions mechanic, mechanic's helper, inside/outside sales Good driving record required. 1(800)272-0283

NOW HIRING. SHIP FITTERS. FLUX core welders, pipe fitters, pipe welders, also supervisors. Top pay with per diem Call (228)863-3728 or (877)863-3728

OFFICE PERSON NEEDED Computer ability, minor bookkeeping Send resume to Personnel Office P O Box 538 Kln. MS 39556

RECEPTIONIST NEEDED in busy doctor's office Please fax resume to 228-463-0138 or mail to P O Box 3668, B.S.L. Ms 39520

SERVERS & COOK'S Various Shifts available Apply in person, River Dock Restaurant, Hwy 603, Kln

WANTED FULL & PART TIME Wait Staff Mature, reliable, previous experience preferred Court St Station. Call 342-2324.

81 Appliances

PAUL'S APPLIANCE REPAIR SERVICE: Only \$19.50 for service calls in Bay/Waveland area We buy, sell or trade all appliance 90 day warranty on all sales and service 493-0822

REBUILT WASHERS AND DRYERS. Fully guaranteed. We have parts and do repair We also buy used appliances Bay Washers. 467-6122

STACK WASHER/DRYER. MINT condition. w/warranty. Electric stove. Mint condition. w/warranty. 493-7022.



HMP NURSING SERVICES Hattiesburg, MS

IMMEDIATE PRN POSITIONS AVAILABLE ON GULF COAST:

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LPN'S

For More

Information Call

(601) 271-6004

(800) 796-1197

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- Domestic Services

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OVER 25 YEARS ON THE GULF COAST
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Lots cleared, fill dirt, top soil, track hoe & dozer work.
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Serving the area for over 25 years
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House Painting
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Interior-Exterior
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Enough to
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83 Items For Sale

110 METAL ROOF TRUSSES. Enough for a 50-ft. wide x 220-ft. long bldg. Cost \$12,000, sacrifice \$4,000/obo. Hope Haven 467-7945.

BLUEBERRIES. YOU PICK. \$5.00/gal. Catfish, you fish \$1.30/lb. June 1-June 30, 2002. 7am-7pm Thurs & Sat. only. Other days by appointment. 19069 Blueberry Hill Rd. Kiln 228-255-5979.

LIVE COCKAHOE MINNOWS Call anytime. 467-6247.

SILVER GLIDE II, CHAIR Elevator Top of the line, used 1 year. \$1200. 467-6087

USED WINDOW UNITS. Rebuilt, clean and charged. All repair work done in shop at 1/2 price. Old units disposed of free. Sell, swap or trade. 467-6849

84 Furniture

4-MONTH OLD LA-Z-BOY SOFA, w/2 built-in recliners. Contemporary; earth tones; scotchguard. New \$1,229. Asking \$900. 228-467-6371.

EXECUTIVE ESTATE HOME, MOVING TO CANADA! Exquisite Queen Anne, solid rich cherry, 6 & 8 piece, nice carved, & sleigh bedrooms with chest highboy TV center etc. Matching elegant formal 10 piece dining room table. 6-8 Carved back chairs (ivory seats). Matched lighted beveled china cabinet. Gorgeous Italian 7 piece all leather den, "Ivory and burgundy." Georgian Victorian tapestry living room. (Ball & claw legs) All three months old. All cost over \$20,000. First \$6,500 takes or (\$985, \$1,285, \$1,885, \$2,385 each room.) 95 Cad Eldo "Royal blue". Showroom shape. NADA book \$19,400. First \$15K takes. Helena Estates. Dr. K. 474-7257

FOR SALE: KING SIZE WATER BED with 5 draws under bed, \$150.00. Call 255-0493 or 467-4266.

85 Building Materials

CERAMIC TILE: TILEWORKS COLLECTION, Laufen, Marazzi: 99¢ to \$1.99 sq.ft. 985-641-7184 contractor prices. Floors, Doors n' More, Inc., I-10 & Old Spanish Trail, Slidell. Next to Levis Chevrolet. 2nd Slidell exit.

METAL ROOFING/SIDING - 6 COLORS galv. to 24ft. length. 38" wide-28 ga. galv., 99¢ ft. Colors, \$1.19 ft. V-ripped & corrug. 64¢ ft. Ridge cap, rake & corner, purlins \$1.00 ft. Roofing/Siding from \$14.90 sq. Warehouse Sales, Slidell, La Exit 263 I-10. (800)842-6646.

90 Pets

FREE TO GOOD HOME. SMALL puppies. Chihuahua & Maltese mix. Males & Females. 467-5014.

GOLDEN RETRIEVER, 11 months old, spayed and all shots. Eligible for AKC registration. Owner ill must sell, \$250.00. Call 467-4187.

ORIENTAL LOVERS. Rare white Pekingese, \$100. Call 467-0853 for details.

93 Yard Sale

#32 CHANTILLY LANE. SATURDAY June 1st. 9am-2pm. Furniture, clothes, misc.

101 TARPON DR., SAT JUNE 1ST. Garden Isle, BSL. 9:00am-3:00pm.

3 FAMILY YARD SALE. 6664 Ahokolo Circle, Diamondhead, Sat. 8:00noon. Baby items, children clothes, furniture misc. items.

929 LONGO, WAVELAND. Sat. 8am-1pm.

BIG YARD SALE. 203 MARCUS ST. Refrigerator, Porcelain Dolls, Toys, Bikes, clothes, much more. Thurs-Sat. 8:00am-2:00pm.

ESTATE SALE. SLEEPER-SOFA, loveseat, tables, beds, kitchenware, linens. Sat. June 1st. 8am-1pm. 6155 Shawnee, JRS.

GARAGE SALE, SATURDAY 10:00-6:00. At The Yellow House, 402A, Dunbar Ave.

GARAGE SALE. 4 FAMILY. Computer equipment, some furniture, other things too numerous to mention. 115 Yarrowborough Place, Idlewood Sub.

LOTS OF GOODIES, DRYER, Shelves, more. Fri/Sat, 9:00-12:30. 200 Seminary Drive, BSL.

MULTI-FAMILY CARPORT SALE. 322 Lemoyne, Pass Christian, Saturday, June 1, 8:00-2:00. Furniture, Linens, glassware, collectibles.

SATURDAY JUNE 1, GARAGE SALE. 504 Sunset Drive, Great Stuff.

SATURDAY JUNE 1st. 8-TILL 10230 Whale Ave. Off Central & 603.

STILL DOWNSIZING-MOVING. 309 Beverly St., Freezer, Clawfoot tub, Lots of different stuff. Fri-Sat 9am-2pm.

YARD SALE 1313 OLD SPANISH Trail. Fri. & Sat. 8:00am-12:00pm.

YARD SALE SAT 7AM-2PM. Community Center Hwy 90 and Harbor Drive. Lots of misc.

YARD SALE. SMALL FURNITURE, nice desk w/side extension, clothes, useful & collectible items. Old driver's license building. Kiln Waveland Cutoff Road, Waveland. June 1&2. 8:00am until ?

YARD SALE: 141 TARPON DRIVE in Garden Isles off Chapman. Friday & Saturday, 8-5.

96 Wanted To Buy

ANTIQUES, COLLECTIBLES, TOOLS, dolls, furniture. One piece or house full. Call 467-2628 days.

96 Wanted To Buy

CASH FOR UNWANTED ITEMS BEFORE garage sale, moving, Estate disposal or cleaning out. Buying Bric Brack, households, tools, Antiques, sheds/garage items Wood furniture etc Call 467-4857 if we can help you out Also cleaning out sheds/garages for Cash/Contents All messages returned promptly.

WANTED FREE DIRT OR VERY cheap dirt. 200/yards or more Will pick-up. Kiln area. 255-6835.

WE BUY OLD WATCHES, WRIST, & pocket, rings, gold, estate pieces \$\$\$Cash\$\$\$ Bayou Jewelers 466-0425.

127 RV Sites

QUITE, SHADED, WATERFRONT RV sight, \$90/week, \$320/mo. Visa & Mastercard accepted. 466-9947.

128 Boats & Motors

14' ALUMINUM SKIFF WITH trailer, 40hp Mercury with steering, PowerMax 36 trolling motor, fish finder \$2200/obo. 228-466-2726.

16 1/2 FOOT BON BATEAUX fiberglass skiff w/trailer and 33 electric Johnson. Runs good \$1,000. 467-2663.

19' SABER WITH 85HP SUZUKI and trailer. \$950. obo. 467-9724.

2000, 19 FOOT, PALM BEACH, 115 Yamaha outboard, depth finder & extras. Asking \$13,500. 466-3120.

BOAT FOR SALE, 19 FT. GALAXY, 4 cylinder, Mercury I/O, runs great needs deck. \$2750. Call 467-4266 or 255-0493.

MONARK 17FOOT, CENTER CONSOLE, 115 Johnson, Skipper B trailer, extras. Good condition. \$3,800. 255-1252.

130 Motorcycles

ATV SALE! YAMAHA Beartracker, only \$2999.00 + \$300.00 free accessories, with purchase. Hattisburg Cycle 1-800-807-0114. We carry Yamaha, Kawasaki, Suzuki, Polaris, BMW, Gas Gas, Husqvarna, and SeaDoo. Call today. Let us save you money.

136 Automobiles

1982 CADILLAC FLEETWOOD 4/DR. \$1,000. Make offer. 255-1264.

1988 NISSAN MAXIMA. Good condition. \$900. obo. 467-9724.

1996 LINCOLN MARK VIII, Pearl Blue. \$9500/obo. 467-9829.

NOTICE OF ABANDONED VEHICLES The following vehicles will be sold 30 days after the first publication:

Unknown Year Wooden Hull Boat VIN# 514408

GULF STREAM SEAFOOD 5221 SHIPYARD RD. LAKESHORE, MS 228-463-1719

5/23, 5/30, 6/6/2002

138 Trucks, Vans

1988 CHEVY 4-DOOR 1 TON STEEL bed with 5th wheel goose neck draw bar. For more info call 255-0493 or 467-4266.

1998 DODGE CARAVAN 4D, 6 Cyl. Good Miles, \$219.00 a month. Jimmy Stockstill Motors, Inc. 1-800-798-9133.

2000 CHEVY STEPSIDE, X-CAB, Red, 5.3 V-8, like new \$314 a month. Jimmy Stockstill Motors, Inc. 1-800-798-9133.

94 PLYMOUTH GRAND CARAVAN, handicapped equipped, \$5450.00. 467-2131 or 806-6527.

97 EXPLORER, LOADED, sport trim, mag wheels, excellent condition. \$7,000. 799-0498 or 255-0126.

FOR SALE: '96 DODGE CARAVAN. 7 passenger. Automatic. "Cold A/C" Excellent condition. 83K miles. Call 255-8233 for information.

FORD, E-150 VAN LOADED. Very dependable, \$3,000. 466-2754.

143 Real Estate Services

"All real estate advertised herein is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act, which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation, or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin, or intention to make any such preference, limitation, or discrimination. We will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. All persons are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised are available on an equal opportunity basis."

145 Roommates Wanted

3 BEDROOM, 2 BATH HOUSE in Diamondhead. \$330 month includes utilities. Bob 255-4187.

ROOMMATE WANTED To share 2br. house. Quite area near Casino Magic. Utilities, phone, & extras included. \$300/month \$100/deposit (228)860-4105.

146 Rooms For Rent

A/C GUESTROOM AT CARROLL House in BSL. Phone, other extras \$300 for quick rental 467-6713

147 Apartments For Rent

1 & 2 BEDROOM. ALL ELECTRIC. Central heat/air, carpet, stove, refrigerator, water included Starting \$325/month, plus deposit Lease/pet free 463-0043. 467-3935

1 BEDROOM COMPLETELY FURNISHED. utilities and cable 467-8245

1 BEDROOM GUEST HOUSE all utilities included \$400/month \$400/deposit 467-8334 after 5:00p m

1 BEDROOM VERY NICE unfurnished, quiet All utilities paid Free cable TV \$450/month 466-4970

1 BEDROOM/1 BATH. Large Apt. with carpet, stove, refrigerator and dishwasher Located upstairs above Treutel Insurance Agency building, 112 Court St. Apt. C. off street parking. \$395 00 rent, \$200 00 deposit, Bay St. Louis, Ms No lease 467-5662 or 467-4613

1BR COMPLETELY FURNISHED. Jordan River waterfront apt Off 603 Pet/free \$420/mo \$200/deposit 255-1264

2BR. APARTMENT FOR RENT. near Casino \$435/month \$435/security deposit 467-9278

The Thirdey Apartments
NOW LEASING
Brand New!! 1, 2 & 3 BR's
(228) 463-2635

Pinecrest Manor
Apartments
1 & 2 Bedrooms,
Unfurnished Apartments
AVAILABLE NOW
Call 467-2063
EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

"DON'T PASS" UP OUR GREAT Special, call Signature Lake Apts. 452-9901.

FURNISHED VACATION COTTAGE on water. \$200/weekly. \$600/monthly. 467-2014.

LARGE 1BR APT. FURNISHED. Pool, Boat & dock, near Magic. Utilities included. \$600/month. 467-5628.

LARGE 1BR APT. FURNISHED. Pool, Boat & dock, near Magic. Utilities included. \$600/month. 467-5628.

148 Mobile Homes For Rent

2 BEDROOM MOBILE HOME in Kiln. \$425/month. 255-2865

2-BR Trailer. Central Heat/Air. 8 miles north of Kiln. \$375/mo. plus \$150/deposit. 255-1550 after 6pm.

2BR/1 BATH TRAILER For Rent in the Kiln. Pet free environment. 255-9397.

2BR TRAILER FOR RENT. KILN Area. 255-5529. Cell 343-1488.

2BR/1BA UNFURNISHED. BACK deck, Plenty of shade trees. \$400/month plus deposit. Call 533-7825 or 533-7946.

2BR/2BA MOBILE HOME ON 1 Acre. \$450/mo. \$250/deposit. Rocky Hill, Kiln area. 1228-332-0154 or 1228-332-0807.

PARTIALLY FURNISHED ALL Appliances including washer/dryer. All electric, central A/C. 255-7405.

150 Unfurn. Houses Rent

1,2,3 & 4 BEDROOM HOMES, from \$250 to \$985, Pet/free. Ask for Carol. Key Properties 467-0600.

2 BDR 1 BA. LIVINGROOM, LARGE den, big fenced yard, pet free. 1/2 mile from beach off Lakeshore Rd \$500/month + deposit. Shown by appointment only. (601)798-5720.

2 BED 1 BATH WATERFRONT COTTAGE near 603 Central AC/Heat. Fireplace. Hook-ups. Pet/smoke free. \$475/month \$375/ deposit. Salt Fish, Realty. 466-9947

2 BEDROOM, 1.5 BATH ON WATER. \$550/month. \$500/deposit. 467-6047.

2 BR. HOUSE IN PASS CHRISTIAN \$585/month, \$585/security deposit. 467-9278.

2BR. HOUSE IN BSL. \$525/month. \$525/security deposit. 467-9278.

2BR/2BA, FRONT AND BACK screened porches, stove and refrigerator. W/d hookups. Cedar Point area. \$500 + deposit. 466-2728.

3 BD/1.5BA. SCREENED PORCH. 1/2 block from beach. \$675/month (504)949-9582 or (228)452-3425.

3 BEDROOM HOUSE NEAR BEACH in Waveland. Central air/heat. \$650/month \$650/deposit. 228-469-0583 after 6pm.

HENLEY TIMBER COMPANY

We would like to buy your logs, poles, pulpwood and hardwood timber.

Small tracts or large tracts

255-3082

150 Unfurn. Houses Rent

3BR/2BA QUIET NEIGHBORHOOD near beach \$720/month \$600 deposit 466-2863

414 ST JOHN ST. BSL BEAUTIFULLY renovated, large, 2BR, 1 bath, central air/heat Carpet w/large yard \$800/month (504)471-8000, or (228)342-2179

BSL. NEWER 3 BEDROOM, PLUS den \$675 + deposit and reference Water, sewerage paid Available in June 452-7192

CHARMING SHOTGUN DOWNTOWN. BSL Near Beach, & City Park 2living rooms, 2bedrooms 1bath \$575 + deposit + utilities 466-4361 after 5:30pm weekdays Call anytime weekends

DIAMONDHEAD 3 BEDROOM, 2 BATH, fireplace, washer/dryer, very clean, pet-free, \$825/monthly + deposit 467-7345

FOR LEASE HOMES. Apartments. Townhouses, new construction Prices from \$450 00 to \$900 00 per month Call Chan Rapp, Century 21 McIntyre-Rapp 467-3777.

LIKE NEW 3 BR, 2 BA FROM \$750 per month Century 21 of Diamondhead 255-3550

NICE SMALL 1-1/2 BEDROOM. FENCED Waveland Cottage \$475/month includes water & trash. 467-1781 Leave message.

ROOM FOR RENT New bedroom & bathroom for rent. Includes phone & utilities \$280/month 467-3773

152 Mobile Home Sites

TRAILER SLOT AVAILABLE IDEAL Trailer Park, Ruella St., BSL \$100 a month Call 467-4594 or 467-2142.

153 Real Estate Wanted

LOOKING FOR A RENT TO OWN, 2/bedroom house in B.S.L. area. Send reply to: P.O. Box 3984, Bay St. Louis, MS 39521.

156 Lots/Acreage

3 LOTS ON WATER, \$20,000. Shoreline, on Lark St., off Harbor Dr. 467-5359

FOR SALE. ONE ACRE PLUS, lots of various size, starting at \$7,900.00 & up. Call 228-263-2839.

FOR SALE: FOUR BEAUTIFUL LOTS, Bayside Park, Sewerage Available. Quiet area. Owner financing. Only \$100.00 down. Terms to suit. 228-467-5734.

LAND FOR SALE, 5 ACRES, \$10,000 per acre, negotiable. Can be divided. Hill Brooke Lane, Pass Christian. Call 467-4266 or 255-0493. Leave message.

LARGE BUILDING LOT: WAVE-LAND, Fantastic Area, All Utilities. Owner Financing Available. Only \$250.00 down, Terms to suit your budget. 228-467-5734.

158 Commercial Property

1100 SQ FT OFFICE ON HWY 90 B.S.L. \$850/month. 467-5011.

1100 SQ.FT. OFFICE SUITE AVAILABLE for rent in Diamondhead. Perfect for professional. Adjacent to Dental office. 255-6657.

FOR RENT HWY 603. 30X60 PAVILION, Flea Market, Boat Repair. 586-2344.

INVESTMENT PROPERTY, next to future casino, Lakeshore, across from Carmels Seafood. Block to beach, approx. 1 acre + nice house, 3BD 2BA. Priced to sell. First \$105K gets it. Murphy Marine Realty. 466-9947.

OFFICE & RETAIL SPACE AVAILABLE: Choclat Village, Waveland Ms. Phone 228-255-4396 or Pager 228-883-8554.

159 Houses For Sale

3BR/2BA. UPDATED 4-YEARS ago. Sunroom w/accuzzi, ceramic tile, bar-berry flooring. Large back yard w/privacy fence. Behind Elem. School. \$124,500/obo. 466-5890.

FOR SALE BY OWNER: 4 BEDROOM, 2 Bath, corner lot, excellent neighborhood. Completely renovated. Appraised value \$160,000. Reduced to \$145,000. 412 Pecan Park, BSL. (228)332-5431 or (228)467-5984.

I WILL PAY TOP \$ FOR YOUR PROPERTY, any condition. Will pay all closing cost. Agents protected. O/A. (504)908-7653.

LOVELY 2 STORY TUDOR HOME. 2900 sq.ft., 1 acre lot, 4br/2ba. Large pool and pool house. \$225,000. 466-0545.

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Public Notices

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF HANCOCK COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF JOAN CAROLE BERNARD CAUSE NO. 2002-268 ADMINISTRATRIX'S NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Letters of Administration having been granted on the 24th day of April, 2002 by the Chancery Court of Hancock County, Mississippi to the undersigned upon the Estate of Joan Carole Bernard deceased notice is hereby given to all persons having claims against said estate to present the same to the Clerk of said Court for probate and registry according to law within 90 days from the date of the first publication of this Notice or they will be forever barred. This 6th day of May, 2002

JEAN B. BOURQUE
Administratrix of the Estate of Joan Carole Bernard
05/09 05/16 05/23 05/30/02

SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF HANCOCK COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

MELISSA D. GUILLOT PLAINTIFF
VERSUS
DANIEL R. GUILLOT DEFENDANT
CAUSE NO. 2001-385 SUMMONS

THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI
JOHN D. R. GUILLOT, whose current street and post office address is unknown to the Plaintiff after diligent search and inquiry to ascertain same.

You have been made a Defendant in the Amended Complaint for Divorce filed in this Court by MELISSA D. GUILLOT Plaintiff seeking a Divorce on the statutory ground of Habitual Cruel and Inhuman Treatment or in the alternative on the ground of Irreconcilable Differences. You are summoned to appear and defend against said Amended Complaint filed against you in this action at 9:00 o'clock A.M. on the 19th day of June, 2002 in the Chancery Courtroom of the Harrison County Courthouse at Gulfport, Mississippi, and in case of your failure to appear and defend, a judgment will be entered against you for the things demanded in the Amended Complaint. You are not required to file an Answer or other pleading but you may do so if you desire.

Issued under my hand and the seal of the said Court this 8 day of May 2002
(SEAL)

TIMOTHY KELLER
CHANCERY CLERK OF
HANCOCK COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI
BY PAMELA CUEVAS
DEPUTY CLERK
05/16 05/23 05/30/02

IN THE CHANCERY COURT OF HANCOCK COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI IN RE: ESTATE OF PRINCE F. REYNOLDS DECEASED DAN REYNOLDS ADMINISTRATOR NO. 2002-327

NOTICE TO CREDITORS Letters of Administration having been granted on the 6th day of May, 2002 by the Chancery Court of Hancock County, Mississippi, to DAN REYNOLDS upon the Estate of PRINCE F. REYNOLDS, deceased, notice is hereby given to all persons having claims against said Estate to present the same to the Clerk of said Court for probate and registration according to law within ninety

Public Notices

to be a noi

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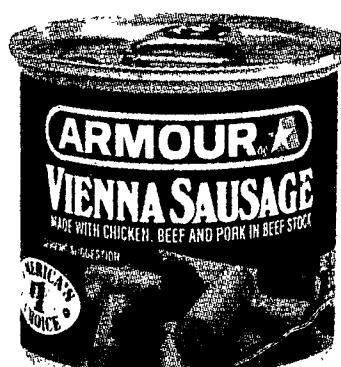
LB

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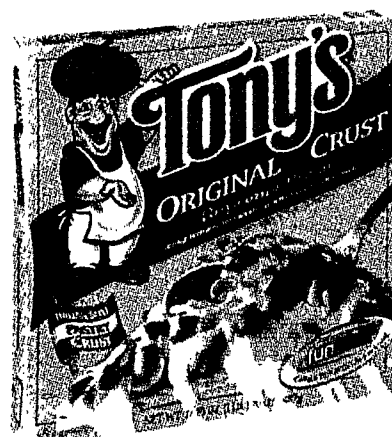
Jiffy
Corn Bread
Mix**25¢**

8oz

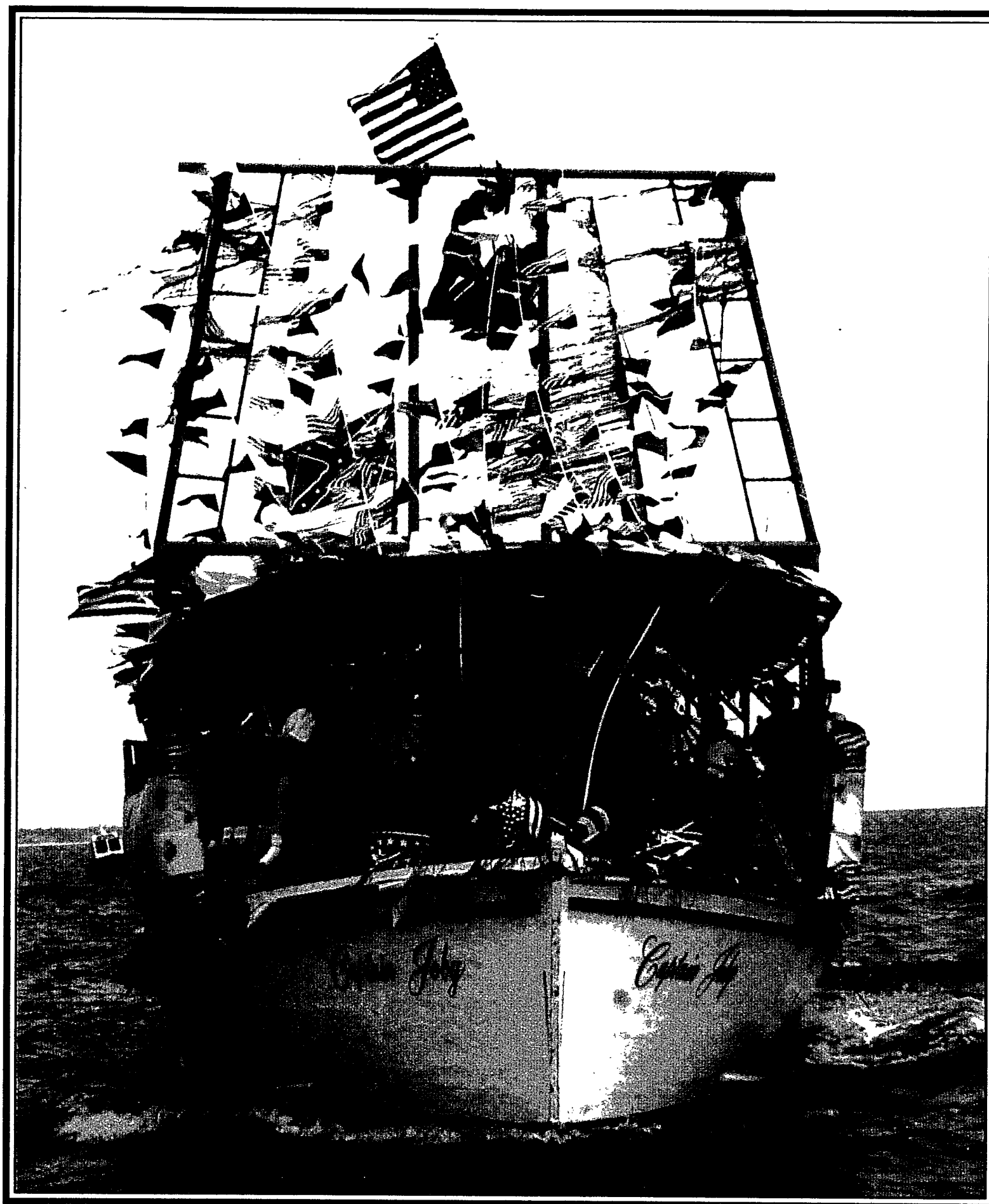
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The Coast

A special edition of The Sea Coast Echo • Thursday, May 30, 2002

Discover the MS Gulf Coast

Coast offers colorful history, picture-perfect scenery and 24-hour fun

ECHO STAFF REPORT

Welcome to the Mississippi Gulf Coast.

Whether you're a newcomer or a native, you'll always find something new and exciting to do in one of the Coast's vibrant communities, where the future promises to be as bright as the past is colorful.

At one time or another, the Gulf Coast has been home to Indians and outlaws, pirates and presidents, astronauts and athletes.

Archaeologists have dated the earliest occupation of the region at somewhere around

6000 to 4000 B.C., when Native Americans moved down into the area and developed several different tribes along the Coast, including the Acopissas, the Bayougoulas, the Biloxis and the Pascagoulas.

Biloxi alone has seen eight different flags fly on its horizon: French, English, Spanish, West Florida Republic, United States, Mississippi, Magnolia, Confederate States and Mississippi State. The rest of the coast has an equally rich ethnic history. From the original Native Americans, who were members of many tribes, to the European,



The Mississippi Gulf Coast is famous for its spectacular sunsets – but the sun never sets on the fun, either in the outdoors or in the dozens of indoor entertainment venues.

African, Asian and other set-

tlers who forever changed the face of the coast, the blood of many nations runs in the veins of Mississippi's three southernmost counties, Hancock, Harrison and Jackson.

Early European exploration of the area seems to have begun in the early 16th century, and Spanish explorers had mapped the entire northern Gulf of Mexico region by some time around 1519.

The Spanish, however, feared Native American attacks and gave the Gulf Coast a wide berth – finally abandoning colonization attempts somewhere around 1556.

No one else even tried until the French came in the late 17th century.

In 1673, Father Jacques Marquette and Louis Joliet, a fur trader, paddled down the Mississippi River. In 1682, Robert le Seur de LaSalle tried to pick up where the two explorers left off, and eventually claimed the entire Mississippi basin for France. He named the territory

Louisiana in honor of King Louis XIV. On a later expedition to try to establish a colony near the mouth of the Mississippi, LaSalle was murdered by his own men.

Over the next few years, Spain, France and England all tried to claim the area.

"Spain claimed ownership by right of discovery and by gift of the Pope," Robert G. Scharff wrote in Louisiana's Loss, Mississippi's Gain – A History of Hancock County, MS from the Stone Age to the Space Age. "France asserted that Spain had given up all rights she may have once had by failing to exploit her property or establish any colonies; and England questioned just who gave the Pope the authority to give away her birthright to Spain. The race was on!"

In order to defend against other nations' claims to the territory, the French sent Canadian Pierre le Moyne, Sieur d'Iberville to establish a fortified colony in the region. D'Iberville sailed from Rochefort, France on Dec. 14, 1698 with 200 men,

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including his 18-year-old brother Jeane Baptiste le Moyne, Sieur de Bienville.

Biloxi

One of the oldest cities in the United States, Biloxi was established as the first French settlement in the Mississippi Valley in early 1699. D'Iberville and his brother, Bienville, came ashore that year to claim the coast for King Louis XIV of France. Finding the waters too shallow for their boats, the men left, with d'Iberville moving his vessels to what is now Ocean Springs and Bienville going west to the area he named in honor of King Louis IX, the town still known as Bay St. Louis.

In addition to being the first French settlement in the Valley, Biloxi was the first permanent white settlement in the area, and the first capital of the Louisiana Territory. Biloxi was also the site of the first two French forts in the area, Fort Maurepas (in what is now Ocean Springs) and Fort Louis, which was located in

the area between the current sites of the Biloxi Lighthouse and the Old French Cemetery. Biloxi remained the capital of the Louisiana Territory until late 1722, when the capital moved to New Orleans.

Biloxi is a namesake of the Biloxi tribe (of the Sioux family) that inhabited the area when d'Iberville landed in 1699. The Biloxi tribe met d'Iberville when he landed, and later sealed a pact of friendship with the French people through the passing of the Calumet (peace pipe) and a bottle of French brandy.

"Biloxi" means "first people," which makes it an appropriate name for both the Indian village and the French settlement which followed. Biloxi is the only city in the U.S. and perhaps the world, which bears this name.

Biloxi contains several historic landmarks that attest to the military influence in its history. Keesler Air Force Base, which isn't technically a landmark, is still a vital part of Biloxi's history. The

base was established in the early part of World War II, and continues in operation today as the largest electronics training center in the world. Even the space program's history includes a Biloxi note: Apollo 13 astronaut Fred Haise was born there.

The Mississippi Sound's waters and resources have played a large part in shaping the city. Mullet, a plentiful food fish, were dubbed "Biloxi Bacon" during the Civil War when they saved the city's people from starvation during a Union blockade. Shrimp and oysters play a large commercial role in the area's economy, since Biloxi is one of the world's largest canners of them.

In addition, Biloxi shares part of the world's longest manmade beach, 28 miles long.

Ocean Springs

Ocean Springs was the original site of Biloxi, then was renamed around

HISTORY-PAGE 11

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SOUTH TO BEACH BLVD, TURN RIGHT
TO COLEMAN AVENUE**

Learn to be a shrimper on the Biloxi Shrimping Trip

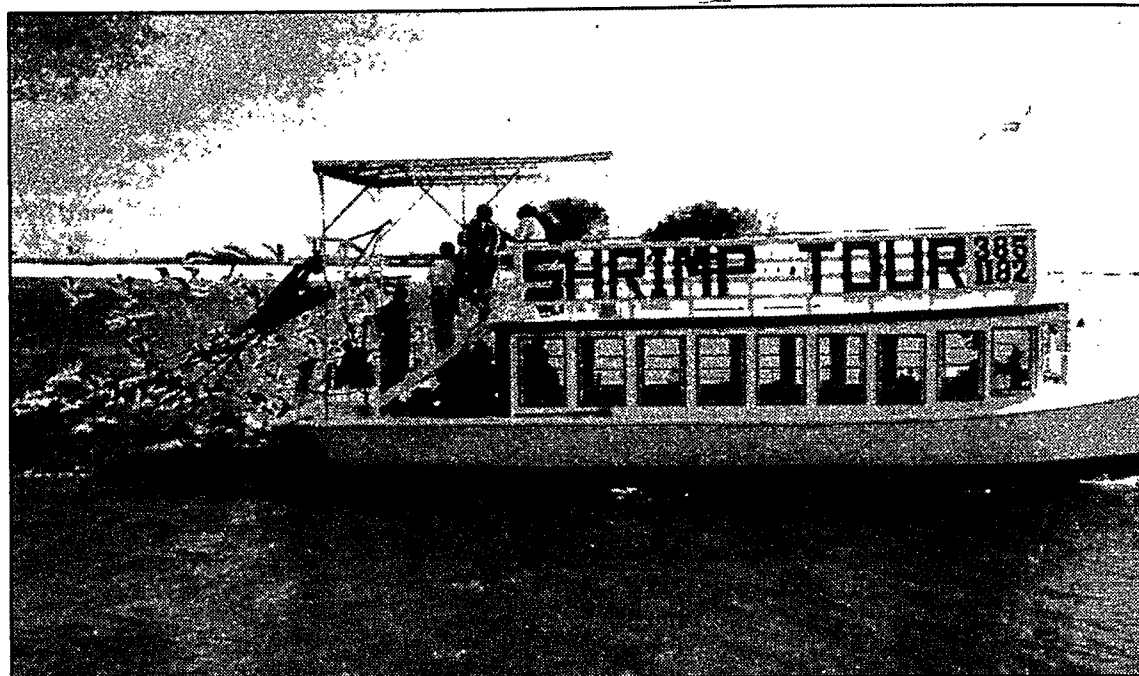
ECHO STAFF REPORT

The Biloxi Shrimping Trip was started by Louis Gorenflo in 1954. Gorenflo contracted with a boat builder Lionel Eleuterius Sr. to construct a new tourist vessel to take the public out shrimping.

Gorenflo's intention was to stimulate interest in the daily activities of the professional shrimpers. He named the boat the "Sail Fish," and it's still in operation today, run by Corrie and Virginia Eleuterius, who purchased

the business from Gorenflo. Corrie is the Sail Fish builder's nephew.

Gorenflo's shrimping trip included a tour of the seafood factories that were located on the east end of Biloxi. Participants would tour through the factory to see how the shrimp were graded, "deheaded," picked and/or peeled. Tour groups would also pass near Deer Island to see how oysters were tonged and culled (breaking out the oysters of optimal/legal size and returning the smaller



The Biloxi Shrimping Trip operates seven days a week between mid-February and mid-December, weather permitting. To book a tour, call 385-1192 or 1-800-289-7908.

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ones to the water). Until 1969, there were people living on Deer Island. One of the residents, John Guilhot, was known as "the Hermit of Deer Island." He became part of the "show" for the tourists, up until his death in 1959. If the "Hermit" needed groceries, he would clip his grocery list on a cane pole with a clothes pin. The pole would be stuck in the water near the island. When Gorenflo saw the paper, he would pick it up during the first part of the tour. Once the tour arrived at the seafood factory, Gorenflo would pass the list to one of the factory employees, who would then purchase the groceries while the tourists viewed the factory.

On the next shrimping trip, Gorenflo would blow the boat's horn as he approached Deer Island and Guilhot would row in his skiff to meet the Sail Fish, all the while singing songs from his favorite operas. As he sang, the tourists would throw coins in his boat to express their appreciation for the entertainment. Rumors persist that the Hermit of Deer Island was actually a retired opera singer from France.

Gorenflo acquired a wealth of scientific knowledge as well as numerous sea legends and fishing stories

during his ownership of the Biloxi Shrimping Trip tour. One of his favorite activities was to exhibit the exoskeletons of crabs while explaining their patterns of growth and development. During the tour, he would also often tell the tale of the "pearls" of the saltwater, hardhead catfish (*Arius felis*). The catfish is said to have pearls in the upper part of its skeleton.

One version of the story goes that, if you can hear the pearls rattle, you can talk to God. Another version says that the pearls represent the dice cast by the Romans for the robes of Christ.

Since Corrie and Virginia Eleuterius purchased the business, they say, they have been very surprised by the number of people from so many countries who have heard about the Biloxi Shrimping Trip. Recently, a couple from Russia took the tour after reading an article about it - proving how far the reputation for good Southern hospitality, the Shrimping Trip's trademark, can reach.

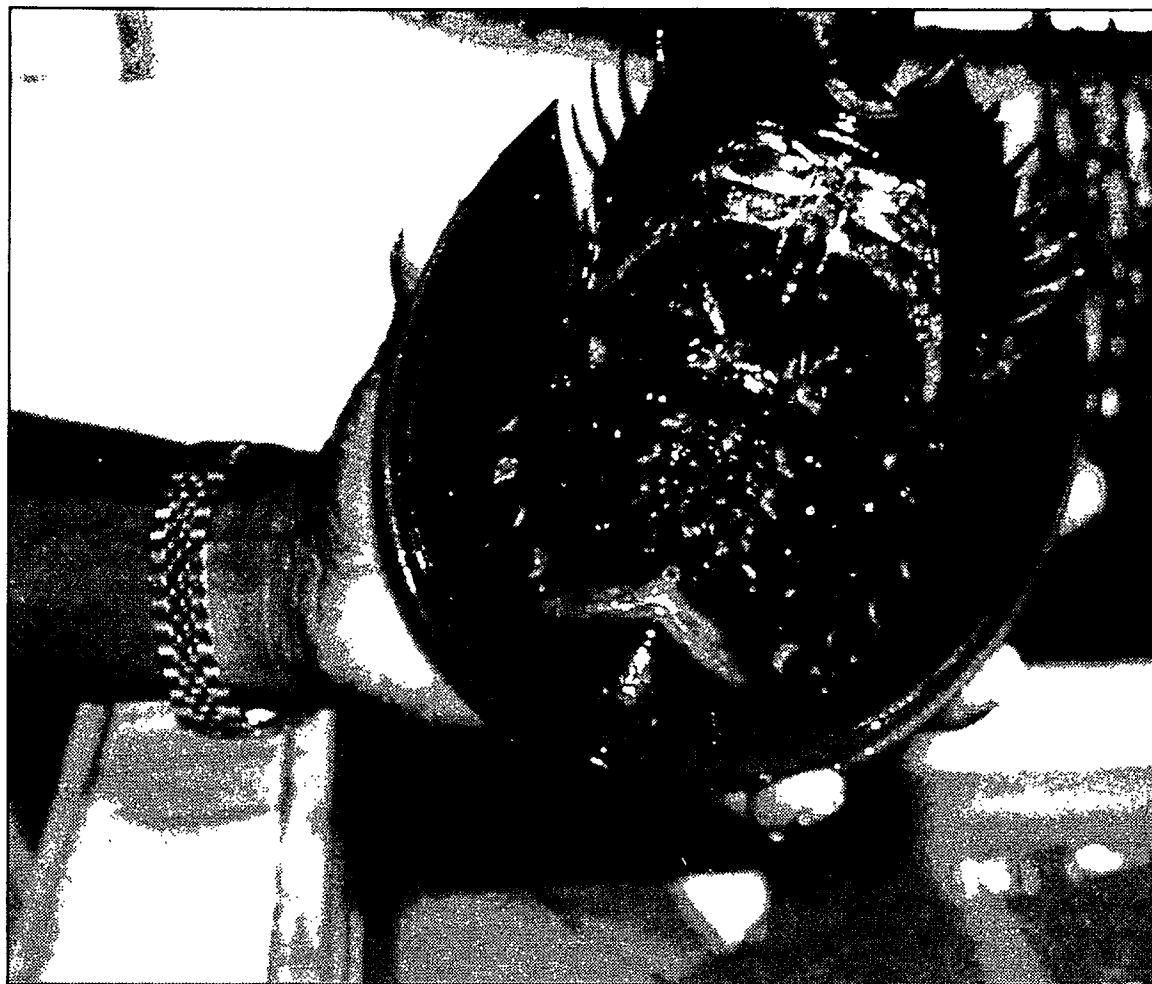
Today, there are no longer shrimp factories in the part of Biloxi where the Biloxi Shrimping Trip operates. This has forced some changes in the tour. Now the trip is approximately 70 minutes long. The Eleuteriuses exhibit shrimp nets and identify

each part as it goes into the water. When it's in far enough, they demonstrate how it works.

They also offer a narrative on how the shrimping industry works, including information on the best time of year for shrimping, what species shrimp are caught and the life cycle of white shrimp and brown shrimp. Tourists also learn the difference between boats that work in state waters compared to those that work in federal waters; how they catch and keep their shrimp; how long the shrimpers stay out; and a multitude of other things involved in the daily business of shrimping.

The Biloxi Shrimping Trip operates seven days a week, weather permitting, from mid-February to mid-December. The Sail Fish always stays in the protected waters between Deer Island and the mainland. Reservations are not required for groups of 14 or less. Discount prices are available for groups of 15 or more with prior reservations.

The business is based at the Biloxi Small Craft Harbor, slip number 104. The address is 693 Beach Blvd., Hwy. 90 and Main St., Biloxi, Ms. 39530, (to write, P.O. Box 39533). Telephone: (228) 385-1182 or 1-800-289-7908.



Echo staff photos by Bennie Shallbetter

The J.L. Scott Marine Education Center and Aquarium at Biloxi offers visitors a hands-on study of the Mississippi Gulf Coast's vast wealth of marine life. For more information call 228-347-5550 or contact the website at scott.aquarium@usm.edu.

Get 'up close & personal' with marine life at J.L. Scott center

BY BENNIE
SHALLBETTER
Staff Writer

Mississippi's "window to the sea," the J.L. Scott Marine Education Center and Aquarium, offers hands-on exhibits, customized educational programs, marine life videos, and displays of various aspects of marine life and local species, as well as aquarium displays representing the river system as it flows into the Gulf of Mexico — complete with species specific to each environment. A touch tank allows visitors to touch starfish, and horseshoe crabs among other small marine dwellers.

In addition, the aquarium offers Project Marine



One of the center's exhibits includes this Red-Eyed Slider turtle, which was deformed after getting caught in a plastic six-pack ring.

Discovery Sea Camp, a summer camp for children five-through-16; and Discovery "ABC's," tailored to bring the basics of the marine environment to nursery school groups of three- and four-

year-olds.

The aquarium also offers memberships at varying levels which entitle members to free admission, year-round

SCOTT-PAGE 14



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LAYAWAY



The 'Hospitality City' offers fun all year long

Multiple parades, festivals, and celebrations make Waveland the place to be

BY BENNIE SHALLBETTER
Staff Writer

If you're looking for a coast community with a unique flavor all its own, Waveland could be your choice. The town strikes a delicate balance somewhere between a Norman Rockwell painting — complete with kids pulling wagons with fishing poles loaded on, a common sight on the main street, Coleman Ave. — and a dynamic growing community with plans for the future.

Waveland sports a slightly New Orleans-flavor, with a large Mardi Gras Parade put on by the Krewe of Nereids, the town's own all-women Krewe formed in the late 1960s.

But it expresses its own personality with the Waveland Civic Association's Annual St. Patrick's Day Parade on Coleman Ave. The event draws large crowds to socialize and vie for piles of beads, cabbages, potatoes, carrots and even a corn beef or two. It's quite a party, but a friendly party, and a fun event for children as well as adults.

Waveland loves a parade, and any reason for one is as good as the next. In March,



Echo file photo

The Waveland Civic Association's annual St. Patrick's Day Parade draws hundreds of spectators from all over the Coast.

"Paws on Parade," an annual Easter Parade for dogs was held on the Avenue, as a fundraiser sponsored by Friends of the Animal Shelter to benefit homeless and abandoned animals. Dogs dressed up in their Easter best to march down the avenue. Floats threw dog biscuits and toys, as dogs and their owners walked to Elwood Bourgeois Park for an afternoon of fun, games, and prizes.

In April each year, "Spruce Up the Avenue" draws amateur and professional artists to decorate the town's trash cans with wonderful scenes limited only by the imagination. The event is sponsored by the Coleman Avenue Association, a group of local citizens and business owners dedicated to the revival of Coleman Ave.

This year the Coalition also sponsored a "Charming Cottages Tour" in May, which

featured seven local homes to visit. In September, the Coalition sponsors "Wave Fest," an annual Labor Day Celebration complete with bands, food, activities (such as last year's sand sculpture contest), crafts booths and more. The evening ends with a fireworks display on the beach put on by the Waveland Civic Association.

June brings the Sons of the Legion Fishing Rodeo, and July and August bring

the Sportman's Kid's Fishing Rodeo at the Garfield Ladner Pier.

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Echo staff photos by Bennie Shallbetter
Waveland's Coleman Ave. is truly the heart of the city, featuring not only the historic city hall, but also unique shops, art and antique stores, and excellent restaurants.

The City of Waveland sends off the year in early December with its annual Christmas Parade and Concert. The early evening parade - complete with Mr. and Mrs. Santa Claus - culminates at Waveland City Hall with carols sung by elementary school choirs and visits with Santa. The event features trolleys to see area Christmas lights and a bonfire on the beach.

Coleman Ave. sports many unique shops and restaurants as well as other local businesses. Antiques, one of a kind gifts, and kayak and bicycle rentals are just a few of the things you will find.

The branch of the Hancock County Library located on the avenue is scheduled for renovation,

which will increase size and capacity. The Old Waveland School, which will become the new civic center is also in the process of being renovated. Even Waveland City Hall is slated to get a face lift which will make it handicapped accessible. Garfield Ladner Pier, at the foot of the Avenue, is awaiting the next phase of renovation which will add restroom facilities and 100 feet to the pier. Also at the foot of the avenue is the new veterans' memorial.

Whether you attend one of the many special events or spend a relaxing afternoon strolling down the Avenue you will find that Waveland lives up to its name, "The Hospitality City."



The Garfield Ladner Pier and miles of carefully manicured, white sand beaches make Waveland an ideal place to relax. And a newly-completed walkway/bicycle path joins the city with Bay St. Louis.

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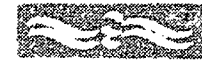
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ECHO STAFF REPORT

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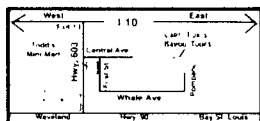
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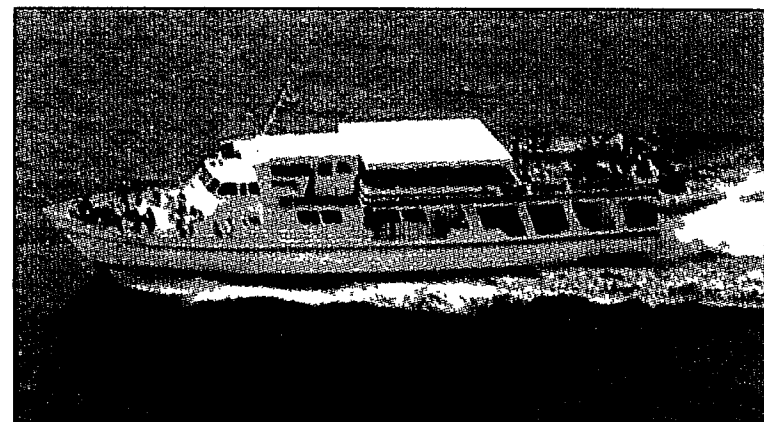
A Ship Island Excursions tour group gets its first glimpses of historic Ft. Massachusetts as the vessel nears the island.

the last undeveloped barrier islands for public enjoyment of their outstanding natural and historical resources.

Ship Island is also home to a genuine Civil War-era fort — that was operated by the Union.

Fort Massachusetts was built by the US Army Corps of Engineers from 1859 to 1866 as part of an extended system of masonry forts for coastal defense. During that time, inclement weather, the Civil War and isolation were

a few of the many challenges the Corps faced. Ship Island was considered important to the defense of New Orleans and the Gulf Coast because of its deep water harbor and location along a shipping route. The fort's masonry work is impressive. The concrete foundation extends more than nine feet below sea level. Although several million bricks were used in its construction, the fort contains more concrete than brick. Fort Massachusetts



Ship Island Excursions vessels are equipped with the latest safety devices, and offer an enjoyable trip in cool comfort.

was one of the last masonry coastal fortifications to be built in the US. Although the fort became a victim of advancing military technolo-

gy, its beauty and craftsmanship remain as symbols of a strong, yet passive coastal defense.

In 1862 Ship Island served

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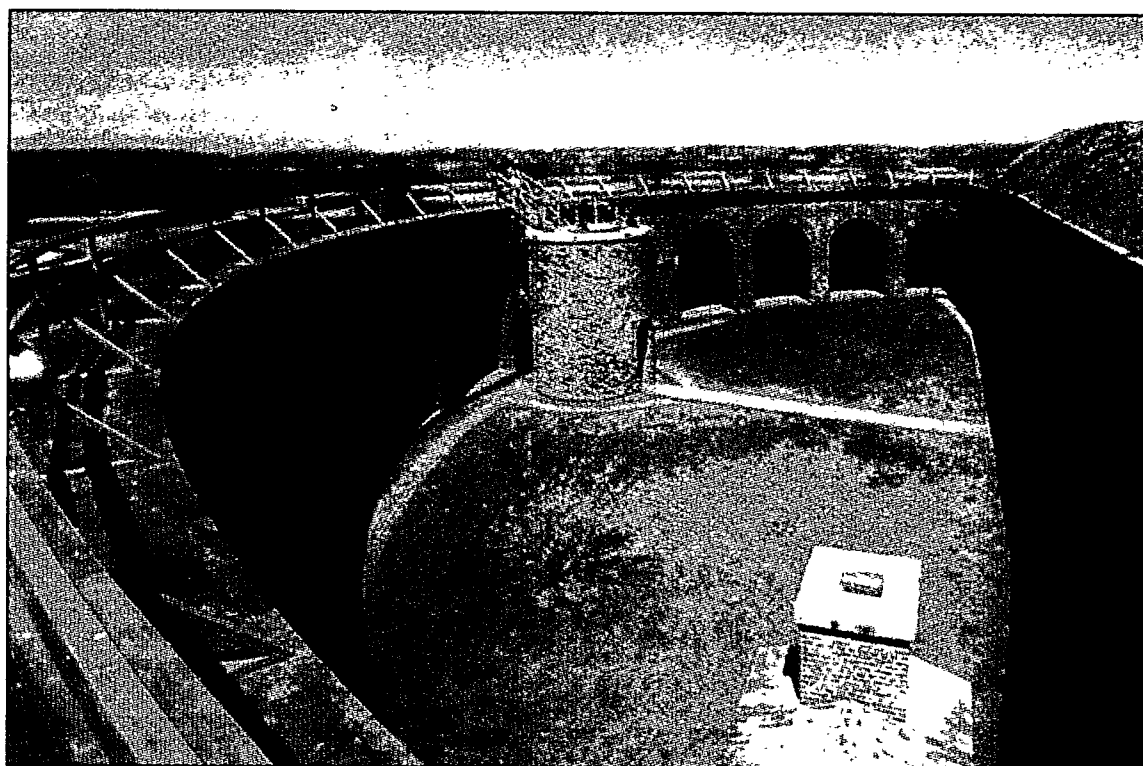
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... and walk through historic Ft. Massachusetts



The U.S. Corps of Engineers recently began a beach renourishment program to protect Ft. Massachusetts from erosion. The Corps conducts regular tours of the facility.

as the base from which Admiral David Farragut's fleet sailed to attack and capture New Orleans. The Island also became a prison for Confederate P.O.W.'s, and a base for the U.S. Second Regiment (Louisiana Native Guards), one of the first African American combat units to fight in the Civil War.

Ship Island is a favorite

getaway for both the nature lover and the history buff. Protected by the National Park Service, the unspoiled island is home to an interesting variety of plants and

wildlife, including many species of migratory birds. Warm tidal pools and wind shaped sand dunes crowned with sea oats help the island retain much of its natural

beauty.

The island features white sandy beaches for walking, bird watching and combing the beach for shells. Fish or swim in the sparkling water.

The unspoiled island is home to a variety of plants and wildlife, including many species of migratory birds. Several alligators live in the inland pools and wind shaped sand dunes crowned with sea oats help the island retain much of its natural beauty.

A one-third mile walk across a boardwalk is required to reach the gulf side of the island, so travel lightly.

Louis Skrmetta is president of Ship Island Excursions. The Skrmetta family has owned and operated the business since 1928.

Ferry boats depart from the Gulfport Yacht Harbor near Marine Life Oceanarium.

The boat trip will take you across the Mississippi Sound, used by European explorers who first arrived on these shores in the 1600s. Today

shrimp boats, intercostal barges and ocean-going freighters make up most of the maritime activity you will see between Ship Island and the mainland. Often, Atlantic Bottle-nosed Dolphins can be seen surfacing alongside the boats.

The vessels have open and closed decks. A concession stand, picnic pavilions, showers, restrooms and beach chair and umbrella rentals are available.

Currently, the Skrmetta family makes two trips to the island per day. Monday through Friday - 9 a.m. and noon; and four trips on Saturdays and Sundays - 9 a.m., 10:30 a.m., noon and 2:30 p.m.

Call 864-1014 in Gulfport or call toll free at 866-466-7386 for more information or to book a tour.

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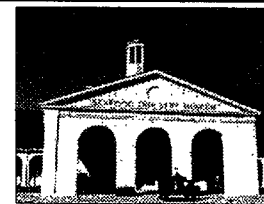
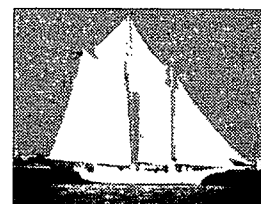
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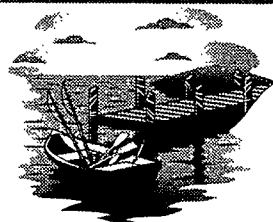
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StenniSphere brings outer space to the Coast

ECHO STAFF REPORT

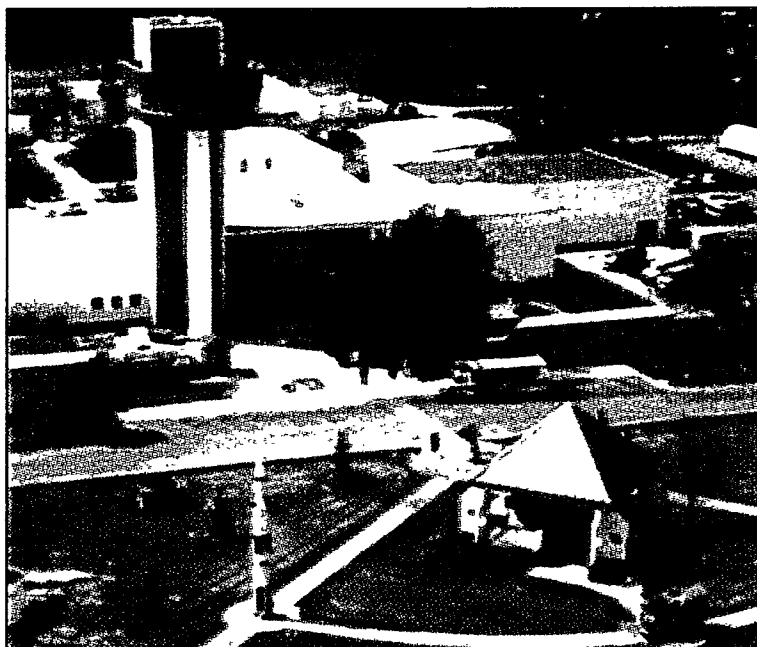
StenniSphere, Stennis Space Center's award-winning visitor center, features 14,000 square feet of informative displays and exhibits from NASA, the Naval Meteorology and Oceanography Command and other agencies located at Stennis Space Center. More than 250,000 visitors from around the world tour the space center each year. Tours to StenniSphere originate every 15 minutes from the Launch Pad tour stop at the Hancock County Welcome Center at Interstate 10, just 45 miles east of New Orleans.

On display at the Launch Pad is a 30-foot Lunar

Lander that was used as a trainer by Apollo astronauts for their Moon mission, complete with Apollo 13 Astronaut Fred Haise's boot prints at its base.

Visitors board shuttles for a 25-minute narrated tour through Stennis Space Center's unique acoustical buffer zone to America's largest rocket propulsion testing complex. This is where Apollo Saturn V engines were tested in the 1960s and today where the Space Shuttle's powerful main engines are proven flight-worthy. NASA's next-generation rocket engines also are tested at Stennis.

The lobby of StenniSphere



An aerial view of the StenniSphere. Tours are offered 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily except New Year's Day, Easter, Thanksgiving, Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.

features an exhibit highlighting astronauts from Mississippi and Louisiana, pioneer rocket scientist Dr. Wernher von Braun, as well as the late Sen. John C. Stennis, for whom the center is named.

Some of the exciting exhibits include:

Moon Rock -- collected by the crew of Apollo 15 in August 1971, estimated to be more than three billion years old

Apollo 4 Command Module -- unmanned module launched Nov. 9, 1967, to test the thermal protection system during reentry

Apollo 13 Space Suit --
worn by Mississippi
Astronaut Fred Haise, a crew
member of the Apollo 13 mis-
sion in April 1970

"Test Control Center -- a mock up of a Stennis Space Center Control Center where you can "test" a Space Shuttle Main Engine and "launch" a rocket

Space Shuttle Cockpit - land a computerized version of the Space Shuttle

International Space Station -- full-scale mock up of a habitation and laboratory module

Swamp to Space -- a history of the center and information on the local environment.

And many more

and Cosmo, are portrayed in the live stage show, "Oh My Stars, We've Landed on Mars," performed daily in the StenniSphere auditorium. Space-themed videos play throughout the day.

OTHER FEATURES

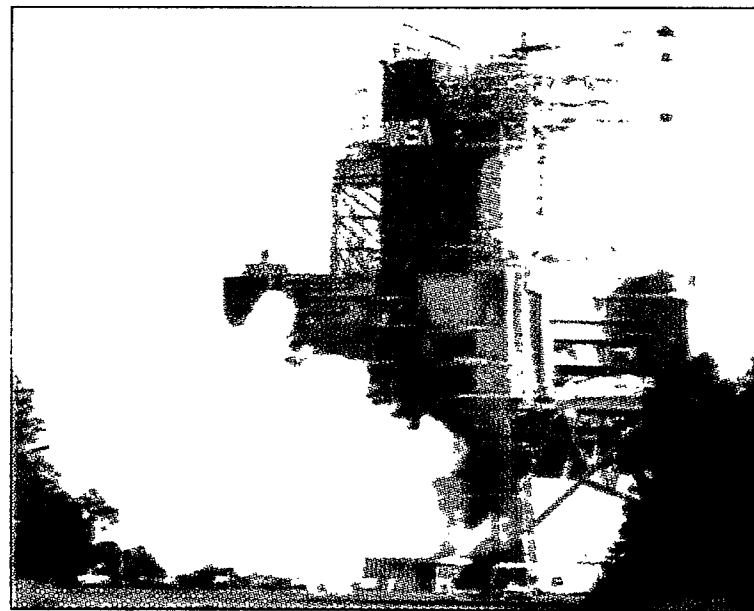
The StennisSphere restaurant offers a full menu of local favorites such as gumbo and po-boys. The Space Odyssey Gift Shop offers the "right stuff" for souvenirs or gifts. The visitor center is open daily from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. except New Year's Day, Easter, Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. Tours depart on a regular schedule each day from the Launch Pad tour stop at the I-10 Welcome Center. Special presentations for groups can be arranged. Stennis Space Center is located on state Highway 607 with easy access from Interstates 10 and 59. Admission to StennisSphere is free.

Motion Simulator rides are \$4 for children and \$5 for adults.

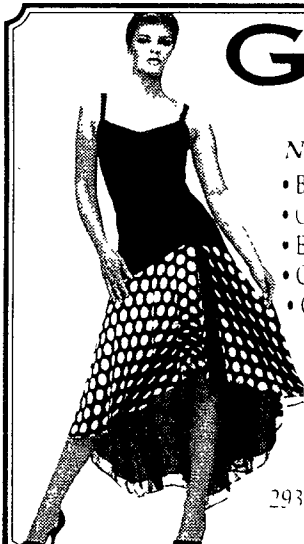
For more information or to make reservations for groups, call Stennisphere at (228) 688-2370 or 1-800-237-1821 (Option 1) in Mississippi or Louisiana or access the Stennisphere home page on the World Wide Web at <http://www.ssc.nasa.gov/public/visitors>.

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A recent public launch pad test at Stennis Space Center.



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History

Continued from Page 3

1720 when Biloxi was moved across the bay of the same name to its present location. The original settlement then became known as Old Biloxi.

Long before d'Iberville landed, though, the Indians of the area had another name for Ocean Springs. Translated into English, the Indian name was "Holy Ground", because of the mineral springs which the Indians believed had healing powers.

Ocean Springs was a small Indian trading post until it became a part of the United States in the Louisiana Purchase of 1803. The first permanent settlers began moving in, and the settlement was renamed Lynchburg in 1853 in honor of a merchant operating a trading post on Fort Bayou.

The merchant, George Lynch, was working with Rev. P.P. Bowen, a Baptist minister, at a sawmill at the Fort Bayou bridge. Bowen noticed a small stream running from the ground, and found out that it was a spring, after doing a little digging. When the water was analyzed later, it was found to contain high amounts of iron and other minerals. Bowen built marble baths over the springs with separate facilities for women and men, and an influx of people began.

It is said that Dr. George Austin, planning to take advantage of the springs by establishing a sanitarium, coined the name Ocean Springs. The name stuck, and was adopted in 1854. The town quickly became a health resort, and a regular stop of the Morgan steamboat line between New Orleans and Mobile.

At one time, Ocean Springs was known for both its pecan and citrus industries. Now, the city boasts a number of historical claims, including being the site of Fort Maurepas and the residence of artist Walter Inglis Anderson. The city also has a number of old churches and homes, many unusual shops, three campgrounds, including Gulf Islands National Seashore, and four golf courses.

Moss Point

Once called Mossey Point by loggers on the Pascagoula River and East Pascagoula by others, the town was designated Moss Point in 1867 when a post office was built there. In the late 1800s, Moss Point was the largest pine lumber export center in the nation. Even after that distinction was taken over by Gulfport in the early 1900s, Moss Point continued to ship lumber to Gulfport by barge until the mid-1940s.

The town officially incorporated in 1901. Appropriately enough for a logging town, the first mayor was named Charles H. Wood. In 1911, Moss Point began shipping some of its lumber to Sweden, where it was made into pulp and shipped back to Moss Point. The first paper mill using southern pine pulp was built in 1912 just outside Moss Point's city limits. Today, it is International Paper Company.

During World War I, the area's lumber industry brought in new growth as the government began building cargo ships for war use. These "Liberty Vessels" used heart pine from local mills and oak trees in their construction. However, Armistice ended the new-found prosperity. The two new shipyards and most of the new workers' houses were dismantled, and the town settled back into the slower pace of life it still enjoys today.

Pascagoula

Like Biloxi, Pascagoula was named for its first inhabitants, the Pascagoula Indians. For a while, though it was named Scranton, after a railroad surveyor who didn't know what to call the area and so gave it his own name. However, in 1917, Pascagoula became the official designation.

The Scranton name does live on, though, in the Scranton Floating Museum at the Pascagoula River Park. The 70-foot shrimp boat offers visitors a view of life at sea, which has been a vital part of the whole coast's

livelihood for many years.

The town of Pascagoula was founded in the early 1700s as a German settlement of a French land grant. Mme. Chaumont sent her nephew, Colonel De La Pointe to settle her grant along the Pascagoula River. He took some 300 German colonists with him.

Once there, De La Pointe built Old Spanish Fort, made of local materials ... oyster shells, mud and moss ... to withstand Indian attack. The Fort later became Kreb's Fort, after De La Pointe's daughter married an Alsatian nobleman, Baron Frans von Krebs. The Fort is still open to the public as an historical landmark.

Shipbuilding, long an economic source for Pascagoula, is now a major industry for the city. Ingalls Shipbuilding is one of the nation's prime constructors of naval ships.

Gulfport

Incorporated in 1898, Gulfport has a feel and flavor different from that of its neighboring cities. Founded

HISTORY-PAGE 12

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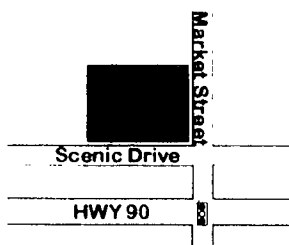
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History

Continued from Page 11

as a railroad and port town, Gulfport's history is that of a business city rather than a resort, or even industrial area.

Captain Joseph T. Jones was the driving force behind Gulfport's establishment. He wanted to build a port city to take advantage of the virgin pine forests to the north. He succeeded. Considered an "upstart" by its long-established neighbors, Gulfport grew to fill in an overlooked, sandy, marshy area between Biloxi and Pass Christian. The fact that its founder was a Yankee didn't help matters at first.

However, Jones wasn't the first to think of running a railroad from Jackson south to the harbor opposite Ship Island. William H. Hardy of Meridian voiced the idea some 20 years earlier, and another group had considered the concept in the 1830s, with Mississippi City being the railroad's southern terminus. The Civil War put an end to the original thinkers' plans.

Hardy, who had earlier completed a rail line from Meridian to New Orleans, including a bridge over Lake Pontchartrain (which some had considered impossible at the time), started work on the railroad and even came up with the name of Gulfport for the city, but abandoned the project when government and other problems interfered.

Hardy did live to see Gulfport becoming a reality, though; he died in 1917, some years after Jones started his work in building the city. Gulfport quickly became the coast's primary port, and eventually annexed the two older towns.

Jones, ever ambitious, almost literally built the city of Gulfport. He called for Gulfport to replace Mississippi City as the county seat in 1902, and continually created companies to supply the city's needs. He founded a hotel and bank, donated land for a courthouse, bought up street privileges held by another company and donated them to the city, took personal supervision of the G&SI railroad, and helped organize the Gulfport Yacht Club.

Jones even ramrodded the creation of the harbor at Gulfport and the dredging of the ship channel, and built a trolley line that ran from Biloxi to Pass Christian. Today, Coast Transit Authority's Beachcomber trolley is a symbol of and tribute to Jones' original Beachfront Run.

During his time in Gulfport, Jones poured more than \$16 million of his own money into the city's construction and operation.

Gulfport, now home of the Naval Construction Battalion Complex, also served as the site of its predecessor, the U.S. Naval Training Camp. The camp location had started out, not as a government facility, but as the site for the Mississippi Centennial Exposition.

As the city continued to grow, it saw a waxing and waning of its timber shipping industry, the growth of the seafood industry, the construction of the seawall in the 1920s, the four-laning of Hwy. 90, the move of Hancock Bank's main branch from Bay St. Louis to Gulfport in the 1930s, and the establishment of the sand beach in the 1950s.

Today, Gulfport is known for its retail trade, industrial/manufacturing businesses and government installations, as well as its seafood and shipping industries, tourist trade and, most recently, its numerous casinos.

Long Beach

Once known as Bear Point, Long Beach has undergone a number of name changes since it was originally mapped out and named by an Englishman in 1774. Joseph Nicholas de L'Adner was the town's earliest resident, having moved ashore after a hurricane destroyed his home on Cat Island. When he and his family moved to the mainland, they built a home at Bear Bayou near Gulf Park College.

The L'Adner home, having a chimney at each end, gave the city its second name, "The Chimneys", because the L'Adners' chimneys remained standing after the home burned in the early 1800s, and served as navigational markers for sailors on schooners.

Pitcher's Point, near the Long Beach-Pass Christian border, highlights the city's history as a haven for pirates in former times. Apparently, in the early 1800s a certain Captain Pitcher laid a curse on Pitcher's Point that no one would ever find peace there again. He is said to have uttered the curse while being executed by fire by his own crew for his many atrocities.

Even with the curse on Pitcher's Point, settlers were coming into the area, including John Johnson McCaughan, a Yazoo City native, who bought up much of what is now Long Beach.

chose the future site of Gulf Park College and built a beautiful home he named "Rosalie". Since McCaughan owned most of the town at the time, and since he did an excellent job of promoting the area and even served as postmaster, the city's next name became Rosalie.

McCaughan is one of the reasons the Friendship Oak at Gulf Park is still alive and well. He liked the tree so much that he fertilized it ... with dead sharks!

The city escaped mostly unscathed from the Civil War and lived in relative quiet until 1870, when the completion of the New Orleans, Mobile and Texas Railroad changed the city's name once again, this time to Scott's Station, for George Scott, who donated the land for a depot. The railroad shifted business activity to the area north of the shore, and birthed the city's truck farming industry.

In 1882, the city acquired its current name, Long Beach, from James and Woods Thomas, brothers who platted the town and named it for the long, sloping Beach front.

James Thomas contacted an old friend in Tennessee, William J. Quarles, and told him about Long Beach. Quarles visited, liked what he saw, and moved his family, cattle and all, to the town.

He later opened the town's first store, then became Long Beach's first official postmaster. He also started the first school, in his home. Today, Quarles Elementary School honors his contribution to local education.

Quarles is also attributed with the construction of Jeff Davis Avenue, the town's

main street and a favorite teenage weekend hangout for many years.

By 1893, tourism was beginning to make an impact on Long Beach, with two waterfront hotels operating. In 1905, the town was incorporated; J.M. Whitten was the first mayor.

The city's truck farming industry, started by Quarles and Thomas, had started to flourish because of the popularity of radishes in saloons. Apparently, the little red vegetables went well with beer. By 1921, though, the industry had reached its peak, and in following years began to decline.

Other industries also grew, prospered and waned with the changing times, but the "Friendly City" of Long Beach has maintained its hospitable atmosphere throughout the years.

Pass Christian

Two towns along the Coast have nicknames that have almost supplanted their original names with local residents. Pass Christian and Bay St. Louis are referred to in conversation by most folks as "The Pass" and "The Bay". Pass Christian, though, once was known by another nickname, "The Aristocrat of the Coast".

The home of the South's first and the nation's second yacht club, this resort town was first charted by Europeans when d'Iberville and Bienville explored the

HISTORY-PAGE 13



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area. The story behind the town's name is that a Christian L'Adner named the north pass of a channel in the Sound after himself, while his brother, Marianne, named the south pass. However, the brothers are not mentioned in d'Iberville's logs. Julius J. Hayden Jr., who wrote a history of the town, feels the name came from Nicholas Christian of New Orleans, a ship's carpenter with a sawmill on Bayou St. John. He apparently kept cattle on Cat Island and later moved there himself, and the pass took on his last name.

The naming of DeLisle, north of Pass Christian, can be accounted for, though. The Comte de L'Isle, one of Bienville's lieutenant's, named a number of the area's landmarks, including Bayou DeLisle. The residential area assumed the name.

The first known resident of Pass Christian was John B. Saucier, who settled there around 1712. Although a few other families moved in later, not much activity was recorded in the town until the 1830s. Then, New Orleanians and upland residents started noticing the town and realized its resort potential. The Pass was incorporated in 1838, and Finley Hiern was the first mayor.

John Henderson, Charles Shipman and David M. Huges developed most of the town's land for summer homes and hotels, which brought in some 1,500 to 2,000 visitors in 1849 and 1850 alone. Henderson Point on the west end of the town is named after John Henderson.

Lucienne Labranche built the city's oldest standing house, Ballymere. Other structures followed, and by 1851, the town had two hotels and some 60 other summer residences.

The Southern Yacht Club, now located in New Orleans, was organized in 1849 at Montgomery's Hotel when a group of New Orleanians came through with their cabin sloop on the way to Mobile. Their host at the hotel promised them a race if

they stopped again on the return trip, so they did. The yacht club emerged from the race. Today, the Pass Christian Yacht Club is still a very active member of the local sailing scene.

Between the time of its founding and the Civil War, Pass Christian was the Coast's major trading center. When the war started, though, the town found itself literally under fire from gunboats in the Sound. In April 1862, 1,200 Union troops invaded The Pass.

After the war, the town's economic emphasis shifted from trading to tourism, with the advent of the railroad in 1870. Now, in addition to New Orleanians and other Gulf area visitors, the town started to see an influx of visitors from the north, and more hotels were built.

By the turn of the century, Pass Christian had become known not only for its tourist attractions, but for the oyster industry and the beautiful homes on Scenic Drive, many of which are still standing despite numerous hurricanes.

President Woodrow Wilson was one of many famous people attracted to the town, and he enjoyed a long stay at the "Dixie White House", one of the town's oldest homes, in 1913. Author Dorothy Dix also alit in The Pass, but she stayed and bought a home.

Although none of the town's hotels, the last of which was destroyed by Hurricane Camille, were ever rebuilt, Pass Christian remains a favorite weekend and summer spot for visitors, as well as home for its population of 6,000. Its annual Mardi Gras parade and Seafood Festival are two of the area's biggest tourist draws, and the Yacht Club hosts two regattas each year, the Knost and the Frostbite. The Garden Club's annual Spring Pilgrimage and Arts and Craft Festival in March gives visitors a chance to step back into the town's splendid ante-bellum past, and the Pass Christian Isles Golf Club hosts an Italian Open tournament each spring that attracts serious and not-so-serious golfers from all over

the U.S.

Bay St. Louis

Bienville originally named Bay St. Louis in August of 1699 after King Louis IX of France. The first European settlers, moving into the area later that year, enjoyed friendly relations with the Choctaws already living there.

While it is now the Hancock County seat and has been a popular watering hole for New Orleanians since the 18th century, Bay St. Louis was sparsely populated for many years after its initial discovery. Development in the area took place primarily along the Pearl River area, with the biggest settlements in Gainesville and Pearllington.

In 1721, a Madame de Mezieres sent some 30 people to the area of what is now Felicity Street to settle a 17,000 acre land grant she received from King Louis XIV.

After the French and Indian War, the Bay St. Louis settlement was given to England in 1763. Following the American Revolution, Spain was given the area in 1793.

Thomas Shields, who received a Spanish land grant on the shore of the bay almost a century after Bienville's landing, began cultivating in 1800, and his grant became known as Shieldsborough. The town was originally incorporated under that name in 1858. However, the town was again incorporated in 1875, this time as Bay St. Louis.

By that time, the town had been in the United States for 64 years. Hancock County for 63, and the state of Mississippi for 58 years. Bay St. Louis, at the time of incorporation under its present name, already had a good reputation as a resort town. The Civil War had but little effect on the town's existence.

Since Louisiana had outlawed dueling around 1870, Bay St. Louis became a popular site for New Orleanians with quarrels to shoot it out. The town as the location of Mississippi's last documented duel, which occurred in

April of 1874.

Bay St. Louis has, almost from its start, been a popular weekend and summer haunt for New Orleanians, dueling and non-dueling. By the turn of the century, the town boasted several hotels and summer "cottages", as well as a health resort, an opera house and a vineyard. Even today, many visitors are from the neighboring state, as well as many transplanted residents.

Bay St. Louis was the site of the first Hancock bank,

founded in 1899 as Hancock County Bank, and the location of one of the coast's oldest newspapers, The Sea Coast Echo, established in 1891. Since its beginning, the Echo has missed publishing only two issues. The Bay also can claim the coast's first seawall.

Today, Bay St. Louis remains a favorite tourist spot, and has gained a reputation as an art and antiques colony. The city's annual Art

HISTORY--PAGE 14

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A recent tour group checks out one of the dozens of exhibit tanks at the J.L. Scott Marine Education Center and Aquarium.

Scott

Continued from Page 5

activities such as bayou discovery tours, behind the scenes tours, workshops, the aquariums monthly publication, and discounts at the gift shop.

The aquarium's "Adopt-A-Tank" program is paramount to the maintenance of the center's 48 aquariums, which range in size from 10 to 42,000 gallons. Any person, organization or business may adopt a tank for yearly fees ranging from \$100 to \$20,000. Sponsors may adopt all or part of a tank for all or part of a year. Adoptions fees go to the maintenance and feeding of the tank's residents. A plaque on the tank acknowledges your support.

The center's living displays illustrate the progression of water through the water cycle, freshwater to salt water habitats. The first set of displays represent fresh water river and creek systems; the second, a salt marsh or brackish water environment; the third, the lower salinity of the Mississippi Sound; the fourth, the higher salinity areas of the barrier islands and island passes.

The large center tank represents the Gulf Of Mexico.

The tank is 30 feet in diameter and eight feet deep. Its 42,000 gallons hold such creatures as sharks, eels, and a sea turtle. Because it is harmful to move large fish, most of the tanks' residents start out small when taking up residence in the tank and are allowed to grow there.

One special display, to remind visitors of their impact on the environment, contains an odd looking turtle, a Red-Eyed Slider. He is odd because at first he looks almost like two turtles until tour guides explain that when he was young he was caught in a plastic six-pack ring. When he came to the aquarium the ring, which had prevented growth in the middle of his shell, had to be cut out, said Coordinator of

Operations Willie Heard.

The Aquarium also sponsors a recycling program for plastic six-pack rings, which may be dropped off at the center.

The center is administered by the University of Southern Mississippi and is the Biloxi campus of the Gulf Coast Research Lab and - with a campus at Stennis Space Center - comprise the USM College of Marine Sciences. The center is located at 115 Beach Blvd. at the Western edge of Biloxi Bay, just before the bridge to Ocean Springs. Hours of operation are Monday-Saturday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more information call 228-347-5550 or contact the website at scott.aquarium@usm.edu.

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History

Continued from Page 13

Tour attracts thousands of visitors each fall, and new galleries and antique stores have recently sprouted like flowers.

Waveland

Waveland was a part of Shieldsborough until March 1888, when it was chartered and citizens elected L.H. Fairchild as its first mayor. An established summer retreat, Waveland is populated by descendants of the original French and Spanish settlers as well as residents who have moved from New Orleans and other metropolitan areas.

The town's first major business was Ulman's Woolen Mill in the 1880s. Sheep raising was a big business on the coast at the time, and the shepherds would come down from the area north of the Sound once a year to trade wool and hides in Bay St. Louis and Pass Christian. When the sheep raising industry fell after a few years, Ulman's Woolen Mill also died.

One of Waveland's claims to fame was the "Pirate House", built in 1802 by a New Orleanian of dubious repute. Some believed him to be pirate Jean Lafitte, but historic records indicate the house was owned only by a close business associate who helped Lafitte ply the slave trade in secret. The house was destroyed in Camille, but its story lives on in local history.

Today, Waveland is the site of Buccaneer State Park, probably named for Lafitte and his confederates. The park is an ideal campsite and

picnic ground, facing the beach in Waveland. The park's Wave Pool attracts visitors of all ages.

A short distance west of Waveland is NASA's John C. Stennis Space Center, where shuttle engines are tested and many important government subcontractors are located. Stennis Visitors Center provides a look at the nation's space program past, present and future.

North of Waveland, near Kila, named for the ovens where the original French settlers burned charcoal to sell, is the Stennis International Airport. The airport includes a landing site for private and charter planes, and has seen a major increase in activity with the advent of casinos on the coast.

Diamondhead

Diamondhead was founded in 1970 as a resort community whose name and street names were based on Hawaii's Diamond Head. The area didn't really take off for several years, though, and once it did, it was seen primarily as a retirement community.

All that has changed, and now Diamondhead is known as one of the fastest growing communities on the coast. Its population, at last count, exceeds Pass Christian's, and the area has its own shopping center, hotel, restaurants, fire department, security staff, yacht club, country club (with two golf courses), recreation centers with pools (one with a ball field), and small craft airport.

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DAILY SPECIALS

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Casino Magic Bay St. Louis Opens MS Gulf Coast's Newest Casino Resort Hotel

SPECIAL TO THE ECHO

With the opening of the 14-story Bay Tower Hotel, Casino Magic Bay St. Louis now touts itself as the most comprehensive casino resort on the Mississippi Gulf Coast.

Situated on almost 600 pristine acres along the Bay of St. Louis, Casino Magic recently spent \$37 million on the 291-room tower hotel which includes Jourdan River Grille, the Cypress Cove Ballroom, Spa at the Bay, Tokens Gift shop and on additional property improvements. The property presently offers a 24-hour casino, daily entertainment in the casino lobby, weekly concerts in the 22,000 sq. ft. entertainment complex, five restaurants, an onsite Arnold Palmer championship golf course, RV park, and a 201-room Inn.

The official ribbon cutting, May 22, and opening, May 27, marks the completion of a 13 month long project. According to casino executives, the MS Gulf Coast's newest casino resort hotel tower is potentially the first of two hotel towers for the property.

"The most impressive feature is the planning that went into constructing the new hotel. The entire facility was built with an additional 300-room tower in mind," said President and CEO, John Jagunich.

Though only four Front Desk terminals are needed to check in 291 rooms, there are seven. Likewise, the pool deck is expansive enough that it can accommodate an additional 300 rooms without having to pour another pool or patio area, and there is already elevator infrastructure in place for the second tower if needed.

"We like to call it thinking ahead. If we are able to fill the 291 rooms in Bay Tower and the 201-room Casino Magic Inn that we currently have, then we will consider adding a second tower. We didn't want to over build. We wanted to test the waters first," Jagunich said.

While the only Mississippi Gulf Coast casino in Hancock County, the property is centrally located only 25 miles from the Biloxi-Gulfport Airport, 65 miles from the Armstrong International Airport in New Orleans, and only 12 miles from Stennis International Airport. Casino Magic Bay St. Louis has primarily attracted drive-in customers. With the addition of Bay Tower, coupled with increased marketing efforts, the casino's strategy is to lure people from slightly longer distances for longer stays.

Jagunich notes that the existing Inn will remain in operation after the new hotel's opening, giving the property a combined guest room total of approximately 500. Guests will have the option of choosing between two levels of accommodations and pricing. They may choose the new higher-end hotel, or the more moderately priced Inn.

The new hotel expansion has created an additional 200 more jobs for Hancock County. Currently, Casino Magic BSL employs more than 1,250 people.

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